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BRAVO, VASSALBORO!

Lib State Historical Soc X

ALMOST ANOTHER SLATERSVILLE MADE OF VILLAGE BY BRAVE MAINE FIGHTERS.

Striking Weavers of L. A. 392, S. T. & L. A. Have Moved Out of the Town and Left Empty Houses—Consternation of Little Business Men—Alliance Spirit Unconquerable.

[Special to The Daily People.]

North Vassalboro, Me., May 10.—As has been predicted in the columns of The People, the striking weavers of No. Vassalboro have fought their brave fight to a finish. The outcome of this struggle is another illustration of the determined spirit of intelligent resistance to oppression with which those who join the Socialist Trades and Labor Alliance or come within its influence become imbued. The members of L. A. 392 were unable to do as was done by the Alliance men at Slatersville in 1899, when that town was cleaned out and its owner compelled to sell the mills to a junk dealer, but they have come as near to it as it was possible to do. Never in the history of the State of Maine has such an illustration of grit and classconscious determination to refuse to submit to the whims of their exploiters, been given in any industry.

Three months or so ago there were 105 weavers at work in the mills of the American Woolen Company at No. Vassalboro, mostly natives of the village, many of whom had never worked anywhere else. It was a typical "down east" town with hardly a "furriner" within its limits. Presently, pursuant to its "grinding down" policy, the company proceeded to pile it on the employee until they could stand it no longer. Then when the strike and the hitherto quite little town became the theatre of a struggle which will live long in its memory or rather in the memory of those of its former inhabitants that are left to it.

Of all the 105 to-day not more than a dozen are to be found in the village. Two of those, Comrades Conroy and Lloyd will have to get out not only from the town but possibly from the State, for they were too active in the strike to stand much chance of getting work, thanks to the blacklisting power of the American Woolen Company. The others are the few weak-kneed ones, some of whom gave in at the start, their names being published in The People at that time.

Thirty of the best families of workers in the village have moved away perhaps never to return. Even those who own cottages here are working out of town. Needless to say the possession of a "cot and a kitchen garden" was counted upon by the millowners to act as a millstone to drag down those who happened to own them, and it is to the credit of the brave workers of the town that so very very few were dragged down by it.

The following clipped from a recent article in the "Kennebec Journal" will give an idea of the situation here:

"The strike of the old weavers of the mill of the American Woolen Co. at North Vassalboro has been declared off. The remaining weavers, nine in number, those who have not left the village for other jobs or returned to work, met Sunday afternoon, and settled the fight as far as they are concerned. The fact is that nearly 100 weavers formerly employed in the local mill have left the village and have secured work in other mills. Thirty families have moved out of the village and the only families remaining those are those who own their homes, but the heads and working members of these families are employed in other cities or towns. A considerable number of old weavers have gone to Skowhegan, where they have secured work in the Marston Worsted mill.

"The great change in the personnel of the inhabitants of North Vassalboro is severely felt by the local merchants. According to the published intention of the American Woolen Co. some time will elapse before the mills will again be in operation on the old schedule and this does not make things looks at all bright for the village traders. At present there are but 28 looms in operation at the woolen mill, and as the season has so far advanced there is little likelihood of any considerable amount of work be- [illegible] mill until the time [illegible] change, which will be late next fall at the earliest.

"The nine strikers yet remaining in the village have been in the lead of the striking movement since it was inaugurated two months ago, and they consider themselves as marked men who must go elsewhere for work. During the strike aid was sent to the strikers from other mills but no attempt was made to create a union effect by calling on the unions of New England. Some of the people at present weaving in the mill are from the ranks of the original strikers, while others are strangers in this section. When the mill starts on full schedule again the vacant rents will be taken by strangers, but it is feared that for a long time the personnel of the help will not be such as was the old, most of whom had never worked in any other mill and had homes and families in the village. The declaration that the strike is off is made on the authority of Daniel Conroy and Fred Lloyd, who have been closely identified with the strike since its beginning."

The "strangers in this section" who constitute the "change in the personnel" of the village are a few poor Finlanders and Italians who were imported when the company was making vain efforts to break the spirit of the strikers. It will be noticed that the "village traders," the little business men who were so happy when their friends, the Selectmen, were aiding the mill management to bring in the now unwelcome "dagoes" in the hope of scaring us back to work, are becoming very apprehensive of the result of their own middle-class stupidity.

With their best customers out of their clutches and only a few "dagoes" to replace them, the matter has assumed a new face for the traders. Now they are beginning to look around and exclaim: "Furriners, dagoes, b'gosh! No money in them fellers. Any more of 'em comes along, next think we'll have the dago trader, b'gosh! Then we shan't be able to sell a derned thing to the varmints. No sirree, not a derned thing!

The little trader who never can see beyond his nose or his cash drawer, will not, however, be able to see the point in or draw the moral from this attempted importation of "furriners" as can we of the working class. And it is one that we should take to heart and do our best to bring to the attention of our fellow-workers; namely, that however much our good American capitalists and their political henchmen, Republican and Democrat alike, may, at the approach of election time, try to bluff us with the pretence that they are willing to restrict or regulate immigration; however much they may theorize for our delectation about the high standard of American labor, their desire to conserve it, etc., they only do so for the double purpose of hypnotizing us into the belief that they are our friends and thus gaining our votes and incidentally stirring up in us a hatred of our foreign fellow-slaves in the hope of keeping our class divided. Incidents like this at North Vassalboro teach us that in practice the material interests of the capitalist prompts him to see to it that the foreigner whom he would have us despise, is imported and to take advantage of that same foreigner's ignorance or necessity or both, to use him as a club with which to beat us into submission to the terms he wills us to accept. The political representative of capitalism who tries to give any such jolly to those who were involved in this strike will waste his wind.

The strike is ended. It was bravely fought and those men and women who took part in it deserve due credit for their display of courage. The members of L. A. 392 have taught the American Woolen Company another severe lesson. The spirit and principles of the S. T. & L. A. have been again proven genuine and the necessity for building up such an organization and making it a powerful factor in the industrial field again made apparent. On with the good work.

Weaver.

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FOR GENERAL ORGANIZER.

To all District and Local Alliances, Members at Large and Sympathizers of the Socialist Trades and Labor Alliance, Greeting:—

You are urgently called upon to contribute toward the establishment of a fund for the purpose of enabling the S. T. and L. A. to place a General Organizer in the field at the earliest possible date. Every effort looking to that end should be made.

Address all contributions to John J. Kinneally, Gen. Sec., S. T. and L. A., 2-6 New Reade Street, New York.

THE DIFFERENCE

An Open Letter From a "Socialist" Party Man.

(Suppressed by The Worker.)

Editor The Worker:—

In your May Day number, under the caption of "Warning to New Readers," are statements calculated to mislead the uninformed.

Under head number one you say: "We fight capitalism * * *; the S. L. P. fights us and treats the propaganda of socialism as a secondary matter." This statement is as manifestly unfair as it is untrue. The Socialist Labor Party was teaching clearly scientific socialist philosophy before the bastard (S. D. P.) was born of the Debs colonization scheme, and the newly born movement which set itself up as the exponent of Socialism in this country, in its methods and tactics and in its knowledge of economics bore about the same relation to the real Socialist Movement that a newly born infant does to a full grown and intellectually matured adult. That the real party of Socialism, the S. L. P., should condemn the alien would-be rival in the political field, with its puerile tactics and hostile attitude towards the real socialist cult, was natural. The facts and conditions have not changed materially to-day. There is room for only one Socialist movement. If there are two in the field, one of them must be a pretender. It follows, then, that S. L. P. antagonism towards the propagandists of a false politico-economic cult has been simply an incidental part of the important work the S. L. P. has done and is doing in its warfare against Capitalism and its allies in ambush.

That the S. L. P. position in its philosophy and tactics has been correct is attested by the fact that as the youngling rival grows older it has gradually been adopting the methods, tactics and phraseology that have characterized the S. L. P., but without giving credit to the party that originated them. But, does the S. L. P. really "fight" us? Does it not rather, as our schoolmaster, punish our recalcitrant conduct by laying "us" over its knee and applying the shingle in vigorour castigation? The older "we" grow in the movement the more clearly we under stand that our harsh treatment is well deserved. It constitutes a part of our education, practically all of which education we owe to the uncompromising S. L. P. with its unswerving fidelity to principles.

In the second paragraph you state that we support the trade unions; * * * the S. L. P. seeks their disintegration and has gone into the economic field to form rival unions and scab upon existing ones."

The S. L. P. carries on its crusade against Capitalism in its every phase. No well-read person questions the statement that the "pure and simple" union is an integer of capitalism, dominated by capitalist influences and its policy directed by capitalist hirelings. The Socialist Party (S. D. P.) knows this full well. For a political organization professing to be THE party of Socialism to make common cause with and cater to an economic organization founded in its principles and practices upon and interrelated with the capitalist system, is acting traitor to the cause of international working class solidarity.

Conceding the necessity for the existence and maintenance of a union of workingmen in the economic field, in order to deserve the sympathy of its political twin, it is logical that it should be organized along the lines of the S. T. & L. A. or the A. L. U. And, when such an organization is in existence, for a recognized journal of the Socialist Party, like The Worker, to call its members "scabs" on the gang of capitalist dominated grafters called the American Federation of Labor is just about as logical as have been the acts comprising the whole history of the Socialist Party.

Under the third head you say: "We regulate our internal affairs by democratic methods, believing that only so can organization be kept pure; * * * the S. L. P. is ruled by its leader and dissent from his views is punished by suspension or expulsion."

In thus reflecting upon Daniel De Leon, for that is whom is meant, you repudiate the philosophy of which you profess to be the exponent. The "leader" you refer to is a man in whose profundity of intellect has been grasped, with the acumen of an analyst the materialist philosophy as applied to the science of economics. And this "leader" having made himself master of the socialist philosophy has become a reflex of that philosophy with the ability to recast its abstract principles in a concrete mold of expression in form for their dissemination and propagation. He is, then, merely a type of what a socialist should be, and if he dominates the socialist movement it is because he is in a sense the mouthpiece of an organization believing as he believes, and any individual who deliberately acts counter to the movement based on that philosophy of which he is the concrete expression, has no right to call himself a socialist, and deserves suspension or expulsion. To take into its membership a mob of the ignorant rabble practically unschooled in the socialist philosophy would mean that sooner or later the policy of the party would be ruled by that element, and the fate of the movement would be sealed. To the schoolmastership of the S. L. P. does the aroused consciousness of the working class movement for proletarian solidarity to-day owe the progress that has been made, whether the Socialist Party (S. D. P.) is willing to acknowledge it or not.

Under your last head you declare that "we (the S. D. P.) seek to convince men by argument and appeals to their intelligent interest as wage workers and to their feelings of honor or humanity; the S. L. P. depends on abusive epithets, lies and bluff."

That members of the S. L. P. have at times been guilty of expressions not current in exclusively polite circles may be true, but it is a fault and a weakness shared in alike by the partisans of every antagonistic political affiliation. That the S. L. P. "depends upon abusive epithets" for conducting and maintaining socialist propaganda is a falsehood without modification of the term. I have been a reader of the literature of both the parties in question for years, and if the S. L. P. brand of socialism and propaganda is "made up of lies and bluff" then those are the kind of "lies" upon which will be constructed the Socialist Republic of the future. I have frequently seen the charge of lying made against the S. L. P., but NEVER HAVE I SEEN THE CHARGES SUSTAINED BY PRESENTATION OF PROOF.

In conclusion, holding the views I do I am still a member of the Socialist Party of America. Anomalous as may seem the position I take, I believe it based on reasonable grounds. With Mr. De Leon, I do not know whether the Socialist Party or the Socialist Labor Party or some other party yet to be organized shall be THE party of working class emancipation; that matters little. But what I do believe it that when the time has come, whatever may be the name of the party, it will be conducted on the lines of what the S. L. P. is to-day, and as long as it shall seem expedient for me to claim membership in the Socialist Party I shall use what intelligence I possess to educate workingmen to the necessity of class solidarity politically to the end that the Socialist Republic may be achieved through the coalescense of the now segregated organizations.

Word H. Mills.

Dallas, Texas, May 9, 1904.

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COST OF MINING COAL.

Intensity of Labor Makes American Cheaper at Pit Than Any Other.

It is interesting, as having a bearing on the general costs of production in which coal plays so prominent a part, to find that the estimated value of coal in the United States is much less than the value of coal mined in the other great fuel-producing countries. Thus, although the production of coal in the United Kingdom was nearly 43,000,000 tons less than the production of coal in the United States, the value of this fuel at the pit's mouth in Great Britain was estimated to be $467,000,000, while our coal had at the pit's mouth an estimated value of $372,000,000. The German production in 1902 was only a little more than half as much as ours, but the value given to this output at the pit's mouth was more than two-thirds the value of the United States output.

The difference is due not to the quantity of the coal, but to the superior methods employed by us in mining and to the greater efficiency of those who work our mines. We employed as miners in the year 1902 518,000 men, but our English cousins had engaged in this work 805,000 men and the Germans about 450,000. The necessity of this is made evident when it is seen that the average production per miner in the United States was 520 tons, in the United Kingdom 278 tons, in Germany 242 tons, in France 198 tons and in Belgium 166 tons.

This shows why it is that we can afford to pay more to our workingmen than what is paid to their rivals in what are frequently assumed to be competing countries. By more intelligent employment and, we dare say, by the utilization of machinery for hand power we are able in this industry to make men twice as productive as their competitors on the other side of the Atlantic, and this, too, when a large proportion of those engaged in mining in the United States are of foreign birth and of such brief stay in this country that they do not speak our language.—Boston Herald.

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THE EMPTY CRADLE

America's Race Suicide Not An Evil of the Working Class

Mrs. Lydia Kingsmill Commander, in a discussion of the "race suicide" question in the Independent shows that the large family is no longer an American institution, especially with the rich and the middle class.

In the early days of this country the large families was considered as conducive to the welfare of the nation as well as a blessing to the parents. Benjamin Franklin was one of fourteen children, a number far from uncommon at that time, but scarcely to be met twice in a lifetime now. Franklin stated that eight was the American average family then and, figuring on that basis, foresaw for this country a population of 100,000,000 by 1900.

Instead we have 76,000,000, of whom 11,000,000 are foreign born and 13,000,000 the children of foreign born parents. So far from eight being now the average family, that number is considered astonishing large.

The fact that landlords in the "better neighborhoods" refuse to rent to large families, is taken as evidence that the number of families with few or no children is now great enough to furnish them with a sufficient supply of the sort of tenants they prefer.

In a house on the Boulevard containing suites renting from $400 to $800, Mrs. Commander found sixty families and only five children. In another, among thirty-five families there was only one child, a month old baby. In sixteen eleven-room suites in the next block only four children were found.

Two houses, side by side, each contained twelve eight-room flats. These were especially large apartments, there being one hundred feet of private hall running from the rear of the drawing room to the front of the dining room. The former room was 23 x 21 and the latter almost as large. The rents ranged from $800 to $1,200, indicative of incomes from $4,000 to $6,000; yet in one house there were three children, in the other none.

Twenty-two apartment houses, containing 485 families, were visited, in which were just 54 children, or about one child to every nine families.

Mrs. Commander visited forty-six New York physicians, men and women, practicing in different parts of the city to get their opinions on the question. Thirty-eight of them were willing to discuss the matter, thirty considered the ideal American family consists of a boy and a girl. Six said one child. One said: "Having a family is not an American ideal." One woman physician whose practice is among people living on incomes ranging from $3,000 to $5,000 said that among her patients the majority did not want any children. When they do want one, the second is an accident, the third a misfortune and the fourth a tragedy. She had on her desk a photograph of the largest family in her practice—the picture showed three children!

The doctors interviewed whose practice was among people in comfortable circumstances, all agreed that the large family does not exist and is not wanted. Clerks and bookkeepers ape the "upper class" in this as other things. Dr. Shrady deplored the falling birth-rate among native Americans, but says: "The Irish, the Germans and the Italians go ahead and have children." The foreign population is freest from the tendency to restrict the family but, is influenced to some extent by the American idea.

Mrs. Commander says that the only physicians who gave her reports of unrestricted reproduction were those who had patients among the "unintelligent poor." One such doctor said that the tenement woman having no sense of responsibility, and no care for her children after they are here has children without regard to numbers. One thought that the poor were indifferent as to how many children they had, because they could depend on charity to help provide for them! The general testimony of the doctors with experience among the very poor is that there is no "race suicide" in that quarter.

The very rich want a child as heir, the well-to-do and those in more moderate circumstances, do not want to support more than one or two children. The American man of to-day has no horror of a childless life.

The opposition to large families is not only individual but social. Not only do people object to large families for themselves, they do not want others to have them. A physician who has practiced in New York for over twenty years among well-off Americans, as well as having done a great deal of clinic work, said: "The large family is never anything but an unintentional misfortune at the present. Nowadays the mother of a large family feels humiliated. She is really an object of ridicule. People laugh at her at best, and blame her if she is poor. Society does not approve of many children. Unless people have plenty of money we do not excuse them for having a large family. We know that only ample means will enable parents to do justice to many children." Another doctor, who has practiced for six years among different classes of people, said: "I often have women say, 'Doctor, I can't have another. I'm getting such a family I'm ashamed. I don't like to be laughed at.'"

The opponents of Socialism bring the charge that Socialism would destroy the family, but we have evidence that under capitalism the family is fast disappearing, its decline being greatest among the rich and the middle class. This decline is not due to a natural falling off in the reproduction powers of the race, it is due to the adoption of measures calculated to limit or elmininate the family. Those who make no effort to limit the number of their children are the wage workers, and for this they are dubbed ignorant and irresponsible.

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CURRENT COMMENT.

According to a Norfolk dispatch of the 7th, inst:

Clerks at the Southern Stamp Works at Richmond, Va., struck yesterday rather than be bossed by a woman. The foreman resigned and the proprietor, Samuel Rosendorf, placed Miss Ray Henshall in charge of the force. The men employed, some of them married and with families, decided, with all due respect to Miss Henshall, that they did not desire to work under a woman.

This strike appears to be one of those futile attempts that are made from time to time to restrict the competition of female with male labor. Such attempts are bound to fail, for capitalism will employ woman wherever she proves more profitable than man, and as long as woman finds it necessary to seek employment. The remedy is to be found not in an anti-woman crusade, but in the overthrow of the capitalist system, which profits from woman's employment and necessities, to the detriment not only to the male, but to all the membersb of society as well.

The asphalt workers, whose strike was supposed to be settled, and who are now at work, threaten to go on strike again this week because, they say, they are getting blacklisted and less wages under the agreement by which they went to work pending arbitration of all disputes. The Teamsters' Union, which ordered a strike in sympathy with the asphalt workers, says, too, that it has beeen left out in the cold in the arbitration arrangements and that its striking members are still idle. This is what happens whenever arbitration follows a strike. It goes to show once more that arbitration is a method of ending strikes in the interests of the emeployers.

The Southern cotton manufacturers, attending the convention at Washington, are congratulating themselves on the superior economic conditions that they now enjoy over their Northern competitors. They attribute the satisfactory progress of their mills to the demand for tentings, wagon covers, and other coarse cotton goods, created by the war in the Far East. These manufacturers are unconscious of the condemnation of capitalism that their words involve. Think of it! In order to make the child slavery of the Southern mills pay, war in the Far East is essential!

The star of empire is not journeying westward unaccompanied. From Minneapolis comes the news that the cigar trade is very much agitated over the report that the trust is going to open retail stores there.

The successful flotation of the Japanese war loan teaches that one touch of material interest makes the Asiatics and Wall Street akin.

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NATIONAL AGITATION FUND COMMITTEE.

The matter of the National Agitation Fund Committee has been postponed for final adjustment until Saturday evening, June 4, on which date there will be a meeting of the general committee of Section New York. Organizations that have not yet reported must make returns before that date.

Secretary.

WEAVING REVOLUTION

WEAVERS DISPLACED AND WORK INTENSIFIED BY NEW INVENTIONS.

Introduction of Long Bobbins and Electric Stop Motions on Cotton Looms Means More Profits for Manufacturers and More Hustle for the Workers.

Fall River, May 16.—It is estimated that no less than 5000 looms in this city are equipped with the long bobbins and mechanical or electrical warp stop motions. The adoption of this system is said to be a part of a plan which is revolutionizing the method of weaving in the mills and which is now only in its infancy. Three large machinery concerns are prepared to supply the growing demand for these improvements, and the mills are adopting them as speedily as possible. By their use, weavers who now attend a maximum of eight and ten looms look after from twelve to eighteen, and the number of weavers is reduced thereby.

The change is not being made without opposition. Already it has been taken up by the Executive Committee of the Weavers' Union. The members believe they see in the change a determination on the part of the manufacturers to reduce the wages of weavers materially, and exact from them more labor than they are disposed to give. Up to this time there has been no great outbreak among the unionists, as the trouble at the Bourne Mills, which is still on, is the result of dissatisfaction with other kinds of looms and the wages paid for handling them.

Manufacturers figure that they are able to save, from three to six-tenths of a cent per pound in the cost of weaving, by making the changes required, and they are able to use the common looms with some modifications which are not costly. It is estimated that a cost of $25 per loom is entailed by equipping with electrical warp stop motions, and there other costs in the spinning department due to the additions of contrivances designed to put more yarn on the bobbins which go into the loom shuttles. In the estimates of savings given above, the interest on this money is included, so that it seems now that eventually all the mills will adopt the new system in some form. At this time the looms using the new devices are being operated on plain fabrics, as well as on five and seven harness work.

The proposition before the weaver is this, in substance: "Do you care to operate eight looms under the old system, doing your own oiling, cleaning and sweeping, for $8 per week, or would you prefer to look after twelve or more looms, for $10.50 per week, and have others supplied to do the cleaning, etc., for you?" Up to this time most of the weavers have been compelled to run more looms. This is due, in some measure, by the fact that the mills are not running in full, and work is not plentiful. Under the new system, manufacturers supply boys or young men to do the oiling, cleaning, and so on, leaving to the weaver only the work of attending strictly to the business of keeping the looms in operation. The manufacturer profits in two ways by the system. He gets cleaner and better cloth, and he gets a fuller production because the looms are kept more constantly in operation.

But, as in all cases where changes in the methods and working are made in consequence of the invention of new machines, the present revolution is causing some uneasiness, and many manufacturers hesitate to try the new means through fear of friction with the operatives. That phase of the proposition is as old as the adoption of power loom to supplant the hand loom, and will eventually result in the acceptance of the new methods by the weavers. In mills where it is feared that a prejudice might be strong against the adoption of the electrical equipment, manufacturers have chosen to supply the loom shuttles with bobbins containing about twice as much yarn as the small and common bobbin in everyday use. By this means a great saving is made, as weavers have to replenish the bobbins only half as frequently as before, and the number of idle moments in the weaving department is lessened. That means more production from the machines and a consequent lessening of cost.

FRANZ VON SICKINGEN

A Tragedy in Five Acts

Translated from the German of Ferdinand Lassalle by

DANIEL DE LEON

Copyright 1904 by the New York Labor News Company

ACT V.

SCENE V.—*The previously described chamber in the burg of Landstuhl.* FRANZ *entering from a side-room.*

Franz. [*Lost in meditation.*]
Not yet returned! Why lingers he? Like
Lead the heavy minutes' paces drag along!—
It is three hours since he left; to me
Each one is lengthened to eternity,
And each an endless train leads in its wake
Of hopes and fears, to me bewild'ring maze.
[*Approaches a window in the tower, and stretches out his arm.*]
You yonder lie, my country, sunny and green;
The land of my affection and my efforts!
My spirit through this window's iron bar
Floats down to you upon my vision's rays.
He's right! These walls do not *protection give*,
They *part* me from the Nation! Yonder does
She wait, oppressed by heavy chains; she waits
In patience that her saviour may arrive.
Like arms the hills their lengths extend to me;
They beck to me, and draw me to their heart!
I *come*—my hand to it—I will, I *will*
Come out to you! No power shall prevent me!

SCENE VI.—BALTHASAR *enters with downcast looks;* FRANZ.

Franz. [*Stepping impatiently towards him.*]
At last you come!—but, friend, I plainly read
The answer in your face.
Balth. It is in vain!
Their boiling hate has leaped all dam, and bluff
They spurn the semblance e'en of moderation!
Their hatred makes them blind, it at the same
Time gives them sight, and wisdom's place assumes.
'Tis *you* they want—and only you—they're deaf
To aught that has not Franz for name.
Franz. And what
About the palsgrave?
Balth. He? The worst of all
The three! His conscience goads him into rage.
I plainly saw't. In short, they have but one
Word, this: *your unconditional surrender.*
They swore no other pact to make.
Franz. *I shall*
Surrender?—And yet you offered them
The Ebernberg and other forts?
Balth. No, Sir!
My old eyes bored through their corselets thick
Into their hearts, still harder than their corselets.
It was in vain—and, hence, I nothing said.
Franz. I *thank* you, my old friend! Thus honor's saved!
An unconditional surrender? Do
Their Arrogancies think I've shrunk so far
The fools! Still free does this arm feel itself.
Balth. But listen, Sir! In coming back from thence,
I learned the reason of their arrogance.
Blindfolded was I led, but when I reached
The bound'ry of the camp, and they removed
My band, I turned my head to gaze
Upon the field. I then saw, near a hedge,
One of the masons, who engaged had been
In this burg's fortifying. Quick he ducked
His head, but I did hail him—trembling he
Arose, and in the pallor of his face
Lay the confession of his Judas act!
Hence comes the spirit that each ball does lead;
The secrets knowing of the burg, drives them
Destructive to its weakest spots! When that
I saw my head I dropped. Is this the case,
How long can we hold out?
[*Steps towards Franz, and takes his hand with a painful expression.*]
Whichever way
My eyes in scrutiny I turn, escape,
Sir, can I nowhere see—no—nowhere now!
Franz. Oh, treason! *That* the Princes' weapon is?
And *thereon* their Princes' pride is built!
Drop not your eyes; look up, oh, Balthasar!
A man's *full* force is in *extreme* emergencies
Deployed, and paling fall away the fears
That, earth-born, drag him down to earth.
Up from the shipwreck of his shattered plans,
Up from the ruins of his cunning, leaps
His spirit in its native greatness. To
The immensity of his own strength of will,
That latent lies in him, he, waxing, turns;
With closed eyes inhales new strength; draws in
New action from his own resources; and
The total of his life upon *one* card
He stakes. Unburdened thus, he leaps to deeds,
That, lightning-like, in but a single instant
The face of the inevitable change.
You said by dint *of cleverness* I failed;
Well, then, the deed, the bold one, shall redeem me!
Balth. What is, Sir, now your plan?
Franz. The morning sun
Success announces smiling to my heart,
And resolution's fire courses through
My frame. I *come*, my country—
Balth. [*Anxiously.*] Speak! What do
You contemplate?
[*Martial music is heard at a distance; both stop to listen.*]
Franz. Hear you? They approach! Themselves
They give the signal unto me, and join
In music with the feelings that within
My breast is beating time.—
An Armor-bearer. [*Rushing in.*] Sir knight, Oh arm
Yourself! Along the whole line draws the foe.
They are about the burg to take by storm.
Franz. Thou iron! God of man! Thou magic wand,
That turneth to reality his wishes!
Thou last resource, that in despair's night
Doest glisten on his eye, his freedom's highest
Pledge! Now unto thy hand to I consign
My fate. A hostile army's long array
Its coils winds yonder round about me, and
Still closer does reproach's coil constrict
My breast. The *double knot* you are to cut;
One of the two you'll cut assuredly!

SCENE VII.—*The knight of* RUDESHEIM *armed cap-a-pie and with sword drawn, followed by several armor-bearers and soldiers. Close after him* MARIE, *who anxiously questions* BALTHASAR *and the armor-bearers.*

Rud. [*Enters precipitately.*]
Have you been told? The en'my means to storm
The burg. The ladder-carriers are approaching.
Franz. [*To his armor-bearer.*]
Bring me my helmet!
Marie. Father, I pray, do
Not this time rush into the thickest of
The fray.
Franz. Keep still, my child!
[*To Rudesheim.*] From which side are
They approaching?
Rud. The attack the main gate threats,
And on the east strong observation squads
Are posted.
Franz. [*Has in the meantime donned his helmet.*]
Good! Let William of Waldeck
Lead the defence.—You, Rudesheim, with
One half of the garrison, the moment that
They hand to hand have come, a sally make
From the small gate, and take th' assailants in
The rear.—My horse and thirty trusty men
Keep at the garden-gate for *me*. When with
Your sally you have drawn upon yourself
The bulk of th' en'my's forces and his eye,
I forth will rush—escape!
Marie [*Screaming.*] Oh, father! Father!
Franz. I may, perhaps, the near woods gain without
Encount'ring opposition. Do I so,
You'll *hear* from me. Whatever bars my way
Must be broke through. For death must ev'ry man
Be ready who accomp'nies me. Now, Rudesheim,
My word I keep.—*I will go out!*
Rud. Your plan
Be blessed! You out, and I upon the foe!
My men, now follow me!
[*Rushes off with all the soldiers and armor-bearers, but two who remain with Franz.*]
Marie. [*Falling on her father's neck.*]
Oh, father, I
Conjure you! Pray venture not without!
So few men—God—anxiety my blood
Does freeze! Regard my sad presentiments!
It will not turn out well—
Franz. [*Kindly.*] Be still, Marie.
Balth. No, hold him back! I also feel assailed
With ill forebodings. Yet—he'd better go!
Should it succeed—Oh, Germany, this day
A lustrous one would be!
[*The martial music draws nearer.*]
Marie. [*Clinging more and more passionately to Franz's neck, while he seeks to disengage himself.*]
I shall not let
You go! Oh, father, I beseech you!
Franz. [*Forcing himself from Marie's arms.*]
My child, be still! Me calls the fatherland,
And feverish my heart-beats answer, *Aye.*
Your fate to kindly Powers I confide;
They summon me who vengeance wreck on Wrong.
I come my country! Ransom now my flesh
Of earthly fault, vainglorious feebleness!
If I the wall *drew* 'tween yourself and me,
'Tis now for *me* to dare to break it through!
[*Exit precipitately with drawn sword, followed by the two armor-bearers; Marie falls to the floor.*]

SCENE VIII.—BALTHASAR; MARIE.

Balth. [*Rushing to the aid of Marie.*]
For heaven's sake, young lady! Oh, collect
Yourself. The courage that you ever showed,
Preserve it now.
Marie. [*Slowly rising.*]
Oh, Balthasar! Ne'er yet
Was I a prey to such anxiety!
[*Takes a step forward with clasped hands, distracted.*]
How if I now have for the last time seen
My father!
Balth. No, young lady; no. You'll see
See your father surely again. Allow not that
Such phantoms should preoccupy your mind.
Marie. Oft has my father gone to battle, yet
Ne'er was my heart so full of sad forbodings.
One blow decides the fate of both.
Balth. Of both?
Whom else mean you?
Marie. [*Starting up and looking around.*]
Could I but outside fly
And hover over him; could but my eye
Lead him; my cry would give him warning.
Balth. Oh!
Young lady, do you rave? Collect yourself,
I pray you! Come—and take this seat.
[*Leads her to a settee.*] Myself
Shall climb to that entablature. The field
Is swept from th' upper windows. All I see
I'll let you know. My faithful eyes shall serve
You for a field-glass.
[*Climbs up to a higher window.*]
Ha! Already does
Our Rudesheim spread death in th' en'my's rear.
Ha! How he with his grim men hammers them
In bloody rout! He drives them to the wall!
There Waldeck mows them down in rows with his
Stone slingers. Frightful does the battle rage!
Marie. And of my father, see you aught?
Balth. Not yet.
The en'my's reinforced.
[*In great excitement.*]
And Rudesheim
Divides his forces. With one half he drives
Them to the ditch. Oh! Woe! No longer do
I see him. All are thrown together. At
The main gate thickest is the knot of men.
The ladders are by Waldeck beaten down.
Ha! There's Rudesheim! His sword a wide
Swath cuts. Oh! Bravo, sturdy fellow! Bravo!
That was a blow! He drops.
Marie. Who drops?
Balth. The knight
William von Zabern. Ah! the en'my's ranks
Are wav'ring.——Lo! lo! Yonder with his men
Your father turns the corner! *Victory!*
A hundred paces more, and safe the wood
They reach! The road is clear!
Marie. [*Leaping up.*] Oh, God!
Balth. [*In consternation.*] Woe! Woe!
What do I see! From out the woods a troop
Of riders forward rush! They've noticed him.
Upon him straight they ride.
Marie. Oh, God in heaven!
Balth. They're seventy or eighty! Swords are crossed.
Your father runs their leader through.
[*Stamping with his foot.*] Flee, Franz!
Oh, drop your magnanimity! 'Tis now
Too late. The ranks are at close quarters drawn.
Like lions do our men defend themselves,
Despite the en'my's greater numbers.
Marie. Do
You see him still?
Balth. Ha! Rudesheim has seen
His plight. At full tilt does he hasten with
A goodly squad to aid him. Could he fly!
The distance still is long! Woe! Franz's plumage
I see no more.
[*Marie utters a cry of anguish.*]
Yes! Yes! There! There he is,
I think. The wall's edge intercepts my view.
I'll to the roof where with one look the field
Of battle can be taken in.
[*Descends rapidly.*]
Marie. Wringing her hands. No! No!
No, Balthasar!
Balth. I must unto the roof—my whole existence is
Compressed within my eyes. Young lady—*pray!* [*Exit.*]
Marie. [*Calling after him.*]
Stay, Balthasar! Oh, Balthasar!—He's gone!
Alone he leaves me in this agony
Of death! My limbs are trembling. Vainly I seek
My feet to raise. I'm paralysed. A load
Of hundred weights my body presses down.
Aye, pray! I'll pray! [*Falls on her knees.*]
If yonder 'hind the clouds
A Father thrones who feelingly looks down
Upon our woes; who pity takes upon
Our human sorrows—He will now reveal
Himself to me. Oh! If a kindly Providence
Our fates leads lovingly——*How* did *he* say?
The *individual* stands on chance's powder magazine;
Exploding—Woe, if now that powder magazine
Beneath my father should explode!
[*Her head drops on her breast, and she covers it with her hands; deep silence; presently, triumphal music resounds behind the scene; Marie raises her head.*]
Hark! Hark!!
What was that signal? *Victory* comes from
The trumpets of our side. Could it be possible?
[*Rises quickly and looks behind.*]
Balth. [*Entering.*]
Young lady, heaven's heart is obdurate.
Marie. What say you? Why like lead your face sinks down
Upon your breast? Our men have signaled victory!
Balth. Aye, victory! The attack has been repulsed;
And bleeding is the en'my driven back
To camp. But ten times sweeter were defeat
Than victory so dearly paid for—
They deadly wounded carry back your father.

SCENE IX.—*Funeral march behind the scene. While* BALTHASAR *hastens to the aid of* MARIE, *who at his last words is about to fall to the floor, and holds her up, the door opens and wrapt in a cloak the body of the deadly wounded* SICKINGEN *is carried in upon a cot.* RUDESHEIM, WALDECK, *the* PHYSICIAN, *knights, armor-bearers and soldiers follow. The cot is placed to the right of the scene.*

Franz. Marie!
Marie. My father!
[*She flies with outstretched arms to him, kneels down beside the cot and throws her arms around his neck.*]
Franz. Dear, sweetest child!
Forgive, if for one moment more I keep
Myself from you. I soon will yours be.
Is Rudesheim—
Rud. Franz!
Franz. Do you think the foe
Knows how it stands with me?
Rud. They could not that;
Not even if the knights had recognized
You. When we extricated you, you still
Sat fighting on your horse, and not until
They fled, did you of loss of blood drop from
Your horse. We carried you in our midst
While the en'my was sounding the retreat.
They hardly could so soon have learned it.
Franz. Good!
And where is the physician?
Phys. [*Stepping forward.*] Here I am!
Franz. I saw thee tremble when thou bandagedeth
My wounds. Now *freely* speak:—*can* I be saved?
And how much longer can I live?
Phys. [*Hesitating.*] Sir—I—
Franz. I want the *truth.* Upon thy conscience now
I lay it. Many nobles' freedom hangs
Upon thy word.
Phys. [*With an effort.*] You can—
Franz. I *order* thee
To speak!
Phys. You can not e'en this night survive.
[*A thrill of dismay runs through the ranks of those present; Marie smothers her sobs in the cushion of the cot.*]
Franz. Well, then—
Once more, and for a last time, now I shall
Outwit them. Rudesheim, the herald send
To the enemy: I will the burg surrender,
Myself a prisoner will yield, upon
Condition they allow all those within,
Myself excepted, to withdraw. But forthwith
A decision they must give. Time to think
I shall refuse. If they accept, the gates
Throw open. Long I do not wish to be
Their prisoner. [*Exit Rudesheim.*]
Marie, I now belong
To you, my child! Oh, weep not! Grieve not o'er
My fate. We owe to life the purposes
To which the race is consecrated as
Mere artisans their task to fill. I've done
All that I could, and feel at ease and free
As one who faithfully a great debt paid.
My mind falls back upon my life's career,
And speaks me clean of selfish sentiment.
My name will live in memory, and bards
Will some day join me to the hosts of those
Who battled for the noblest aims of man—
And thus I gladly die—and therefore—do not grieve.
Marie. [*Embracing him deliriously.*]
Oh, father, no! You shall not go! I can
The thought not bear of leaving you!
Franz. My child!
My outward fortune—that I leave in ruins.
But never on external things your mind
Was set. As heritance my *name* remains
To you. I bid you carry't worthily,
As, well I know, you will. Alone one thought
Oppresses me, and makes it hard to die—
Oh, could I see *him* once again, and peace
Draw from my Ulrich's noble face!
[*Marie sobs violently.*] On it
Whatever noble deed I contemplated
In brilliant incarnation met my eyes,
And as the mirror of my soul he stood
Before me! Much I fear—a heavy blow
Will this news be to him. Console him, child!
Tell him with blessings, with rich blessings, have
I in this life's last moments thought of him.
Tell him that no reproach must he on my
Account make to himself. I *thank* him for
This death, the handsome closing of my life;
I *thank* him for the better part of my
Existence.
Herald. [*Enters.*] Sir! The en'my have accepted
The offer that you made. The burg, that still
This day shall be your own, to-morrow they
Will occupy. But close upon my steps
The Princes follow. They're approaching.
[*Trumpets sound.*]
Franz. Rise,
Marie! Your tears dry. The en'my may
Not see Franciscus' daughter weep. Be brave,
My child!

SCENE X.—*Second blare of trumpets. Enter the three Princes—the* PALSGRAVE LUDWIG, PHILIP *of Hesse and the* ARCHBISHOP *of Treves—preceded by the Palsgrave.*

Lud. [*Precipitately.*]
Is Franz himself here?
Balth. [*Stepping briskly towards him.*]
Sir, respect before
The *dying!*
Lud. *Dying!*
[*His eyes fall upon Franz, and he staggers back; commotion among the Princes.*]
Never have I thought,
Franciscus, that my eyes would thus behold
You!
Franz. *No?* No more did I! And would you now
Swear off, now that 'tis done, the consequence
Of your own acts? Repudiate the fruit
Of grasping treason? Go! I loathe your sight.
Upon the altars of your envious pride,
That swells your breast, you've immolated all
The duties gratitude commands, betrayed
Your house's most devoted friend. And thus
May on *your* house my fate eventually
Avengèd be. Before a hundred years
Have passed away, may in the strife, that I
A frightful heritage behind me leave,
Your scion, wretched and pursued by foes
Forsaken, like myself, from all his friends,
Flee through the land a beggar, fitly thus
Your house's real splendor seal. Begone!
—A Nemesis holds sway on earth; upon
Your heads, ye Princes, I conjure her wrath.
Phil. Your scores with Ludwig do not me concern;
I ever was your foe; you ever mine.
Franz. You can the voice of conscience not deceive,
Nor yet can you deceive th' avenging goddess.
Are *you* not Hesse's Philip, *Luther's* friend?
And yet yon Romanist you shield, and helped
To run me down, who Luther's strongest prop
Defiantly stood up? Unbridled, a
Corroding selfishness transported you;
Your own advantage weighed far more than did
With you the common weal. Hence may yourself
The penalty yet pay for our misdeed,
In deepest mis'ry mourn that him you felled,
Whom to replace you'll never have the strength.
Arch. Perhaps, also for me you have reserved
Some little text?
Franz. Archbishop!—Not with you my quarrel is.
Not words between us can decide. Besides,
With long and rapid strides—I feel it at
My heavy breathing—*death* is drawing nigh.
Yet triumph not.—Not *with you* victory
Remains. The seed in blood sprouts up—awaked
Among the masses is the cry of conscience.
Or soon or late—your *dirge song* it will be.
[*During the last lines Rudesheim enters and speaks privately and pressingly to Balthasar and Marie.*]
Marie [*Animatedly stepping forward.*]
Ye Princes! Almost providential does
It seem that at this time a pious monk
Has come into the burg. The favor grant
That we my father leave with him; he might,
Perhaps, my father to confession move.
Franz. [*With weaker voice.*]
Confess—I will not—have myself—
[*Balthasar makes covert signs to him.*]
Marie. Princes!
He may yet to his daughter's wishes yield,
If of your presence he's relieved.
Franz. I will—
Not—do you hear—
Lud. The maiden's prayer's reasonable. Far
From us the purpose be to stand between
Himself and God. Ye Princes, let's withdraw.
Let all with me retire who are not
Of Franz's household.
[*Exeunt Princes and suites, simultaneously and by another door Balthasar.*]

SCENE XI.—*The former; soon after* BALTHASAR *with* ULRICH VON HUTTEN. *Ulrich is dressed as in the third scene, but now with a monk's cloak over him, which on entering he throws back upon his shoulders.*]

Ulrich. [*Behind the scenes.*]
Wounded did you say? [*Enters.*]
His iron sinews mock at wounds; and this
Is not the time for wounds.
Franz. [*Has half risen at the first sound of Ulrich's voice, and quickly calls to him.*]
Oh, Ulrich, you!
Ulrich. I've come, Franz; and I bring a mass of news
Most favorable! Notified by messengers,
That I sent out, of your distress, our friends
Are arming to assist you powerfully.
Franz. [*Sinking back upon his cot.*]
Too—late!
Ulrich [*Stops bewildered.*]
Too late?
[*Looks inquiringly around at the circle surrounding Franz.*]
The burg has been surrendered?
A murmur told me so, as I in haste
Came up the stairs.—But even so! What care
We for the place! But you, have you yourself
A prisoner surrendered?
[*Gazes wildly at the surrounding group, who drop their heads.*]
So it is!
I read the confirmation in their looks.
Well, then! Still better tidings do I bring.
Make ready, Franz, to learn from me great things.
The time has come. The peasant draws the sword!
He wants you for his leader, Franz! By him
Commissioned, stand I now before you. Say
The word—an army, hundred thousand strong,
He'll place at your command. The *land* will rise!
They will not long hold you a prisoner.
Allow that from this tower's height a sign
I give, and long before they to their burgs
Have taken you—before their camp they break,
The flood will swallow them; 'twill close o'er them,—
Their squadrons, both of horse and foot—as does
The raging sea close over drowning men!
[*Intently looking upon Franz, Ulrich pauses for an answer.*]
Franz. *Too late*—you speak, Oh Ulrich, to the—*dead!*

Continued on Third Page.

AS TO WAGES, MARRIAGE AND THE CHURCH.

The Socialist Labor Party's Position Thereon Discussed by Party Members.

Anent the discussion raised by Comrade Connolly, I wish to say that the comrade rejects the theory that a nominal rise in wages is followed by a nominal rise in prices as not true. But he gives nothing to substantiate his position. Is it possible that the comrade has a new-fangled theory of surplus value up his sleeve? If so, he has given us no idea of what it is. I know of no other way in which wages are determined except by the average amount of necessaries of life. If we leave this ground, we have none other but capitalist speculative sophistry instead of scientific fact. That a rise in wages is offset by a rise in prices is not theory alone, it is a fact that is demonstrated to us every day. We also know that, in spite of the claims of pure and simple trade unionism that wages are increasing, that wages are steadily declining both relatively and absolutely. Relatively, if compared with the share of the workers' product, which the capitalist appropriates, absolutely when compared with general comforts, length of life of the workers, etc.

It may be argued: "If the workers gain nothing from a nominal increase in wages why do the capitalists oppose an increase in wages?" The capitalists understand their position well. "Why should they jeopardize their capital by bringing industry to a standstill? They could just as well grant an increase of wages since it will come back to them in the form of increased prices."

There are many reasons why the capitalists oppose an increase in wages. One reason is, that the same division of the capitalist class which is engaged in production is not as a rule engaged in distribution, at least, capitalism has not as yet reached that of complete concentration. While the increase in prices will come back to the capitalists as a class it is of little comfort to that particular division of capitalists from which the nominal increase comes. Another reason is that a larger amount of capital is required to operate on the same scale as before.

To my mind it is clear that a temporary increase in wages is followed by a temporary increase in prices, that is, the market price of labor power will never rise above its market value. This, to Comrade Connolly, may merely sound revolutionary; it is a fact, nevertheless.

That this theory does not knock the ground from under the S. T. & L. A. has been answered by the editor of The People to my satisfaction. I wish to add that, holding as we do, that the struggle between capital and labor is a manifestation of the class struggle, and that this struggle will continue as long as capitalism lasts, I cannot conceive how the working class which, in order to emancipate itself must fight under the banner of the S. L. P., can, at the same time, fight on the economic field under the banner of pure and simple trade unionism, which we hold to be a bulwark of capitalism. As long as the workers remain under the influence of pure and simple trade unionism, Socialism cannot make much headway.

Whatever the advantages of organization on the economic field are, whether it is to arrest the gradual deterioration of the condition of the working class, or to drive the capitalist labor leader from the camp of the working class, the S. T. & L. A. is a necessity and not a contradiction to our theory of wages. Nor does this theory render the S. T. & L. A. superfluous. (I cannot make myself believe that Comrade Connolly meant to designate those who, at the risk of being persecuted and victimized, fight under the banner of the S. T. & L. A. as wardheelers. Whatever this term may mean in England or Ireland, in America it is detestable, and cannot apply directly or indirectly to members of the S. T. & L. A. Comrade Connolly should have known it by this time).

To me Bebel's "Woman Under Socialism" is a revelation of new facts of historic and sociologic importance. It settles the "woman question" in so far as it shows there is no distinct woman question; that the woman question is a part of the social question; that with the abolition of the capitalist system of production the woman question will be settled along with all other questions which embrace the social question, and it cannot be settled before Socialism is established; that under Socialism both man and woman will have equal social and natural opportunities.

Comrade Connolly admits that Socialism will settle the economic question, that is, that woman will be economically free under Socialism, but contends that the whole woman question will not be settled even under Socialism. Admitting that Comrade Connolly is right, what of it? We are not going to worry over that. The Socialist Labor Party's object is to free man and woman economically. We are not a party of the future, we are a party of the present and the immediate present at that. What do we know of the future woman? Nothing. All we know is the social and economic system makes woman the slave of a slave. The type of woman favorable conditions will produce will likely be able to care for herself and stand her own ground.

There are other objections to Bebel's "Woman," and these were brought to my attention by a new reader of The People. After a few instalments appeared in The People he wanted to know "Why do you print such things about the Church? Why don't you preach Socialism and leave the Church alone?" I explained to him that it is no attack on the Church or "theology," but merely a statement of facts which is made in connection with the subject in question. But it was of no use arguing. We "lost" that man to the movement.

This brings me to Comrade Connolly's claims that we attack the theology of our opponents of the cloth instead of their economic absurdities. This, to my mind, is simply a matter of opinion. Comrade Connolly may think that we handle the representatives of the Church who slander our movement, too harsh. I on the other hand, hold that we are too lenient. As a party, the S. L. P. holds that religion is the private affair of the individual. But, when a representative of whatever Church thinks himself important or bold enough to slander and misrepresent the movement of Socialism then, it is my opinion, he cannot be hit hard enough to suit me. The representatives of the Church know well enough that they cannot meet us on the purely economic ground, hence they garb their slander against our movement in what our comrade is pleased to call "theology." What of it? Should we stand back and fold our arms for fear our answer to the slanderous attacks will be taken for an attack on theology? I say "Never." It must be brought home to them that our fight is against the capitalist class and whoever sides with the capitalist class, whether it be clergyman or layman, must stand the consequences.

I agree with Comrade Connolly that Vandervelde is away off when he thinks that every free-thinking workingman is a Socialist. But it must be remembered that Vandervelde is of a Kangaroo frame of mind and must have reference to the type of "Socialists" as represented in this country by the German and Yiddish Kangaroos. So much can be said that, no matter how bigoted a man be, if he embraces Socialism and studies the question in all its ramifications, he will become broad-minded and tolerant upon the question of religion or Church. He may remain religious but the Church will lose its influence over him. This, in my opinion, is the reason of a good deal of the opposition of clergy to our movement. Unless I am greatly mistaken I think that the capitalist class will yet fight Socialism from behind the skirts of the Church.

In the meantime our position should be what it always has been that, as a political party, we have nothing to do with religion or the Church. Terra firma is our battlefield, to conquer it for the working class our object.

Chas. Zolot.

Peekskill, N. Y.

ILLINOIS RESOLUTIONS

Adopted at the S. L. P. State Convention at Springfield, April 24.

I.

Resolved, That we, the delegates of the Socialist Labor Party of Illinois, in State convention assembled, reaffirm our allegiance to the national organization of the Socialist Labor Party; and, be it further

Resolved, That we fully indorse the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance, and be it still further

Resolved, That the delegates from Illinois to the national convention be instructed to work for the continuation of the present relation between the S. L. P. and the S. T. & L. A.

II.

Whereas, It has been proposed by some members of the Socialist Labor Party that the national convention strike out Article 2, Section 6 of the party constitution; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the delegates of the Socialist Labor Party of Illinois in state convention assembled, instruct the delegates from Illinois to the national convention to work against any and all such propositions.

III.

[Submitted by Section East St. Louis for introduction to the national convention.]

Whereas, The events of the last few years have more and more established the fact that there is developing within the International Socialist Movement two distinct elements which may be designated as the "strict class struggle Socialists," and the "Opportunists"; and

Whereas, The Opportunists at the International Congress in 1900 went on record as favoring, or at least tolerating, compromise and permitting Socialists to receive favors from the capitalist class and its governments, as evidenced by the infamous and cowardly "Kautsky Resolution"; and

Whereas, The tactical opportunists of countries like Germany, Sweden, Belgium, Holland, etc., that are backward in capitalist development and where remnants of feudalistic institutions are still retarding the full historic blossoming of the bourgeoisie as well as the proletariat, and where, therefore, as the ruling class is divided within itself, important reforms can yet be gained for labor through the desire of either faction to gain labor's friendship, without the Socialists thereby allowing the vital principles of Socialism to suffer, as conditions are not there ripe for an immediate overthrow of capitalism and where, consequently, opportunism is not necessarily the result of corrupt leadership, and

Whereas, Notwithstanding these facts, the Socialist parties and their leaders in such countries, are so blinded by the economic and political conditions that there prevail that, without hesitation, they recognize as their comrades the opportunists of highly developed capitalist countries, such as Great Britain, France and the United States, where the conditions are ripe for the establishment of the Socialist Republic, and where, consequently, any "reform" can only be for the purpose of patching up the capitalist system, and, therefore, is a compromise with the enemy and is absolutely dangerous, and may even prove fatal to the movement. Examples of this are to be found in their friendship for the Kangarooism of the United States, the Millerandism of France, the Hyndmanism of England; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the delegation of the Socialist Labor Party of the United States to the International Congress at Brussels, in 1904, use all the influence and effort possible to make the honest comrades of the less developed countries comprehend the enormous differences in economic and political conditions, for example, in Germany and the United States, and to secure the repudiation of the Kautsky Resolution; and to receive the assurance of the elimination from future International Congresses and other representative bodies of the movement of delegates and representatives of Kangarooism, Millerandism, Hyndman-

Continued on Page 6.

MORE LIGHT ON THE BREWER QUESTION

Terrible Thrust (!!) Made at "Sozialistische Arbeiter Zeitung" in the Letter Box of the "Chronicle," a New Fakirs' Sheet—Most Probably Started by Graven, Pommer & Co. for the Purpose of "Doing Dirty Work" to the National Union--Next Number Will Contain Biography of "Mr." Graven.

(From the "Sozialistische Arbeiter Zeitung," translated for the "Daily People" by Gotthold Ollendorff.)

New York, April 3.

At last the "Sozialistische Arbeiter Zeitung" has received its just deserts! and by no less a personage than the arch-corruptionist, editor and secretary of Beer Drivers' Union, No. 23, the individual named Graven.

For three weeks, there has appeared—not "to fill a long-felt want"—but, as the editors themselves concede, for the present without any necessity, a weekly paper, called "Trade Union Chronicle."

This curious publication claims to be the "official organ of Beer Drivers' Union No. 23, of New York and vicinity," although the members of this union—at least as many in the Bronx as I have had an opportunity to question—are in absolute ignorance of any resolution passed authorizing the publishing of a paper of this kind—still whatever the officers do, must be right. No member will dare to kick, for the orders read "Pay and shut up!"

In all modesty the editors of the sheet omit to publish their respective names, still even without the possession of the gift of second sight, it may be positively asserted that their names are Graven, Pommer, et al.

At the first glance, the "raison d'etre" of the printed thing does not appear very clearly, but its authors may be relied upon to be quite clear as to its final purpose.

Undoubtedly the Brewers' Union faces a serious crisis. It refused, as is well known, to transfer its engineers and firemen to their respective trade unions, as resolved by the convention of the "American Federation of Labor," held in Boston. In New York there no longer exists a necessity for such action, for ever since the signing of the infamous pool-contracts, the union engineers and firemen have found themselves compelled to surrender to ex-Deputy Sheriff Healy and Ward-heeler McMahon, at their own terms.

The few members of this branch, who did not waver up till now in their allegiance to the union, have been able to stay at work in only a few of the independent breweries, and some of them, who were deprived of their jobs, work in factories and ice-houses, although they still continue their contributions to the Brewers' Union, members of which, a good many have been for over twenty years. And just these decent fellows, who still believe in the intention of the International Union to regain last ground, are again being left in the lurch by the International officers, for, as far as Greater New York is concerned, the resolution to retain the unions of this branch within the national body, does not seem to exist.

The "Central Fakirated Union" is quite busy at present wiping out this small remnant, without any protest whatsoever on the part of the International officers. It seems that the latter, hoping for peace in the future, have left the field entirely to Pommer, Graven, et al.

Will this hope be realized? The publication of the above mentioned paper does not seem to warrant such belief, for the standpoint of the International Union does not find a defender in this sheet; while on the other hand it coquets with the centralized fakirs, whose latest resolution, to demand of Chief Fakir Gompers the withdrawal of the International Union's charter to the American Federation of Labor, it has not criticised in the least.

Blackmailer Weyell and Corruptionist Graven expressed the opinion that in New York the engineers and firemen should properly belong to their respective trades organizations, and that the difficulties of other cities should not be meddled with by the central fakirs of New York. In Denver, on April 18, the General Executive of the American Federation of Labor will decide, if the Brewers' Union shall be suspended or not. On this day, too, the "Chronicle," or rather Graven, Pommer at al., will have to reveal its true color. These are the "honest people" in whose company the international secretary celebrated such an extremely joyous Christmas, after which he reported to the "Brauerzeitung" that, when the hour of danger should arrive, the New York and Brooklyn brewers' and drivers' unions would be found stanch supporters of the International body.

Whatever induced him to take this view is as much of a secret as the surmise that the Graven and Pommer Sauls should suddenly have been transformed into Pauls of the purest dye. It is much more probable, that, in case the American Federation of Labor should suspend the International Union, Pommer, Graven, Bohm et al., will remain true to the old Judas-roll and, by order of Gompers, "reorganize," or rather, destroy, the International Union. Naturally, these gentlemen will then be the officers of the new union, with "The Chronicle" as its official organ, for if these corruptionists desire the welfare of the International Union they surely would make use of the "Brauerzeitung," which has a much larger circulation.

For the present, the "Chronicle," as mentioned above, has taken issue with the "Sozialistische Arbeiter Zeitung," whose disclosures have seriously disturbed the peace of mind of these unspeakably low rascals. Graven, the "proud Graven," rises to the following remark in the "letter-box":

"Excited.—Keep cool. The Cleveland paper mentioned is not dangerous. A little loose talk, more or less, does no harm—at least to those mentioned by name."

Of course, it goes without saying, that "a little loose talk" has not been refuted and if Graven asserts that the disclosure of their rogueries does not harm him and his brother vagabonds, he does, much to be regretted as it is, for the time being, state the truth. "Organized Labor" which can "stomach" a secretary who voluntarily confesses to his being a *Pinkerton Detective*, will swallow a good deal more. The vagabond should be kicked out like a dog.

As to-day's article is rather lengthy and time is wanting, I shall leave the promised moral castigation of this disreputable individual for the next number, but cannot forbear to exhort the brewery workers of Greater New York to circulate the "Sozialistische Arbeiter Zeitung," which fearlessly uncovers all cancers and rogueries in the labor movement! Then the time will soon arrive, when the "Cleveland Paper" will not appear so "harmless" to the leeches, the vampires, the traitors of the labor movement, but will rather, like the Mene Tekel, announce the speedy destruction, the end of the filthy trade of the labor fakir.

N. N.

NEIDERMEIER MAKES "A COMPLAINT."

Daniel De Leon was summoned on the 16th of this month to appear on the following day before the Police Court in the Criminal Courts Building, "to answer a complaint" made against him by one Franz Neidermeier. The case was called up Tuesday, the 17th. It appeared that the "a complaint" was a charge for criminal libel against De Leon as "Editor of The People" and that the complainant was an officer of Local No. 1 of the Brewery Unions, who made the recent contracts with the brewery bosses, and against which contracts there has been so much indignation in the ranks of the employees. It also appeared that the complainant had not presented a sworn complaint. The matter was adjourned to the 24th to give the complainant a chance to prepare a sworn complaint.

SECTION ALBANY.

Section Albany, Albany Co., N. Y., again opened its old headquarters at Van Vochten Hall, Room 7, 119 State street, and will hold its regular business meeting every Monday at 8 p. m. All those who claim to be S. L. P. men and are willing to join are invited to attend; also sympathizers willing to help financially.

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Franz von Sickingen

Continued from Second Page.

Ulrich. [*Staggers back; looks around as if searching for confirmation; all drop their heads in utter dejection; Ulrich staggers a few steps toward Franz, but before reaching him drops down with a piercing cry.*]
Dead!
Franz. [*Painfully and in a broken voice.*]
Ulrich—thanks—that once again I see
You—now my wish has been—fulfilled—but now—
No longer tarry—quit the burg—they might
Return—the Princes—go—they'd capture you—
Do not my death make hard—the effort lent
It wings—but few more minutes shall I live—
Go! Ulrich! Go!--inflict not on my mind,
My breaking eyes, the pain a prisoner
To see you—save yourself—for better days—
For our cause—I beg you—go—my voice—
I can—no more—tell him, Marie—move him—
Marie. [*Approaching Ulrich.*]
Ulrich! From you I comfort thought to draw;
And I must strength and comfort give to you?
Ulrich. [*Rises slowly and speaks solemnly.*]
Be still, Marie!—and do not desecrate
With petty comfort such a pond'rous pain.
You lose a father—I the *soul's companion.*
E'en so there might be comfort—were *naught else concerned!*
With this man our fatherland breaks down.
In death's throes lie the hopes that we lived for.
—With his death, impotent the nobles will
Draw back afraid, and bend before the Princes,
Who masterful the realm in pieces tear;—
To Princes flunkeys they will soon descend!
—Deprived of his support, himself mistrusting,
The *townsman* will be absorbed within the web
Of his peculiar interests, and lost
Is he to our Nation's broader sense.—
—Alone the *peasant* true remains to our
Great Cause; he takes up arms—but on his own
Resources thrown, he to the slaughter-house,
The bloody, only drags his body; and
His quartered limbs the broad face of our land,
With horror struck, from end to end will cover!
On his own property the Right of Conquest
High carnival will lead, will strip from him
The last shreds that of freedom still he enjoys.—
A long night falls upon our heads, the sad
Fate of this country in its sable veil
Concealing.—
[*Turning to Franz.*]
Thou diest, and thou carriest to thy grave
Whatever worthy of living this life made
Me now, my errant feet to exile take;
But not for long; a few weeks more, and then—
My ashes joined will be unto your dust.
To *future days* I our *revenge* bequeathe.
[*Staggers towards the door; the curtain closes.*]

THE END.

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SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES:

In 1888	2,068
In 1892	21,157
In 1896	36,564
In 1900	34,191
In 1902	53,763

Sons of men, awake, arise!
With the morning in your eyes,
Show your days what you can do,
Labor, conquer and subdue—
All the world belongs to you;
Sons of men, awake, arise!

SUNKEN PIERS.

Within one month two important decisions have been wrung from the courts by the Socialist Labor Party, thereby it sunk deep and sound two of the piers on which to rear the superstructure of manhood and freedom for the American workingman. The first of these cases was that of Michael T. Berry against the Tobin-Carey Boot and Shoeworkers Union, the second that of Charles Corregan against the Lynch-Hanford-Hayes Typographical Union. In both cases, the labor lieutenants of the capitalist class who run those so-called Unions, "Secret Committees" and other schemes, sought to victimize an S. L. P. member for holding his political convictions and for free speech. In Berry's case they managed to throw him out of work because he refused to bend the knee to an organization that, under condition of the employers paying its officers for the label, promise the employer immunity for any rascality that he may commit against his employes. Berry sued and got judgment for $1,300. In Corregan's case they threw him out of work after a "trial" to which he was not summoned and on charges that he was not notified of, these charges being that he exercised the right of free speech on the political stump and proved the labor fakirs of his union to be a scabby crew whose actions were detrimental to the workers. Those two actions were signal calls. The posture of the S. L. P. men in these cases was one to encourage the workers everywhere. How much encouraged may be judged from the circumstance of the tomb-like silence observed upon them by the capitalist press. Most remarkable is their silence in the Corregan case. This case was decided against Corregan in the lower court several months ago. Immediately the capitalist press of the city burst forth into flaming head-lines, rejoicing at the way "the Socialists were downed." Now that the Appellate Court reversed the decision as preposterous, not a line have these same capitalist papers. These papers know their friends and the foe of their class.

The New York "Sun" had to bite the dust before the labor fakirs who own the International Typographical Union, and pay them $300,000. The S. L. P. makes the fakirs bite the dust.

LAWFUL SANDBAGS

Who was it that said words are intended to conceal and not to express thought? Whoever it was must have anticipated the capitalist politician, and certainly he hit the nail upon the head, how well he hit it may be judged from the following passage with which Eliot Danforth initiates the public into the thoughts of the prospective Democratic candidate for President. Having interviewed Judge Parker at Esopus on the burning question of the Trusts, the aspirant after the mantle of Theodore Roosevelt is reported to have said that he was:

> "In favor of reducing customs duties wherever they enable lawless capital to wring extortionate prices from the consumer."

Lawless capital—as though there were such a thing as lawful capital, any more than lawful sandbags!

Capital is that concentrated and improved means of labor which, though produced by the workers, is held by the idlers, and thus enables the latter to sandbag the people with, both as consumers and as producers. It sandbags them as consumers by arbitrarily raising prices; it sandbags them as producers by disabling them from competing with it, and thus compelling them to become its wage slaves.

As the sandbag is a criminal weapon, so is capital; the one and the other looks inoffensive, leaves not even the mark of its blow, but all the more deadly is its result upon its victim. As the Democratic party, the same as the Republican, would sanctify the coward's weapon, their real name is the Sandbag Parties.

THIRD EPISTLE AT THE LAMBERTIANS.

In the two previous epistles we demolished two of the preliminary fallacies with which Father L. A. Lambert introduced his condemnation of Socialism in the April 16th issue of the "Freeman's Journal and Catholic Register." We are not yet ready to move to the assault of Father Lambert's main positions. Following the maxim of sound strategy, we propose first to open another breach in his fortifications. Accordingly we shall now leap to his concluding remarks, which are intended to buttress up his reasoning. He says:

> "Socialism, according to its authoritative exponents, rests on a basis of materialism and atheism; it is therefore materialistic and atheistic, and is therefore the foe of the Church and the family."

The architectural intricacy of twisting "materialism," atheism," the "Church" and the "family" into one will not save the redoubt from demolition. Its keystone is the charge of "materialism." Now watch it crumble.

Two distinct schools of sociology divide society upon the subject. The one, the anti-materialist, maintains that the ideal, the spiritual, the intellectual, institutions, in short, mind rules the world; its motto is: "Man does not live on bread alone." The other, the materialist, not only accepts the motto, but actually takes the motto for its own device, and shows that the motto not only sums up the philosophy of materialism, but overthrows its adversary, the anti-materialist school. The materialist says: "Aye, aye, not of bread ALONE does man live, hence he needs bread ALSO, without which bread (matter) his mind (spirit) cannot functionate." And the materialist, accordingly, rears the principle that matter is the groundwork, essential, and consequently, determining, for the actions of mankind. It will not here be necessary to go into obstruse reasoning in order to prove the fact. It can be proved concretely. The concrete proof can in all instances, be taken from the mouth of the anti-materialists themselves. So it can and shall be in this.

The Lambertians claim for their organization or institution, the Church, the very highest non-material, spiritual attributes. And yet, to take but one instance out of scores that might be adduced, one that may be said to sum up all the others, what is their own language? what is the language of their authoritative, their "infallible" exponents? It is this: "Without TEMPORAL power the Church cannot fulfil its SPIRITUAL functions"! Here we have from the camp of the Lambertians themselves—a camp, at that, which claims to act directly under the inspiration of the Deity, aye, to represent the Deity on earth,—the plump and plain, however unwitting, admission of the full materialist theory,—of all that is essential to that branch of Socialist philosophy. If the spiritual functions of a divine institution are unfulfillable without temporal (material) power, how could man accomplish the feat? Of course, he can not. Hence Socialism, planted squarely on materialist philosophy, maintains that material conditions determine man's conduct, and, in order that his conduct shall be abreast of his mental and spiritual aspirations, he must furnish to these the requisite material basis.

Thus the fact is obvious that the essential difference which divides Socialism from Lambertianism on the subject of materialism is not a difference in practice, but a difference in preaching. The former, the Socialist, preaches what he practices; the latter, the Lambertian, preaches one thing but practices another. In short the former is truthful, the latter, whether intentionally or not, is untruthful, and, consequently, if not a morally unworthy, at any rate a morally and intellectually unreliable guide.

Socialism does not derive its strength from the circumstance that other institutions stand upon this, that or the other Socialist principle. A Socialist principle does not become right because some other ism also stands upon the principle. Socialism is self-sufficient; it rests upon its own basis. It must stand or fall according to its own soundness. Not, accordingly, in order to establish the propriety of materialism is the demonstration of the fundamental materialism of the Lambertians adduced. The shot is fired to demonstrate that the pronounced foe of Socialism, Lambertianism, kicks itself to pieces when it attacks Socialism from the materialist side.

The "anti-materialist" buttress of Father Lambert's fortification is shattered. Being pivotal to the others—the "atheism," "Church" and "family" buttresses—on that side, the latter now wabble in the air. They may now be disregarded. The closing epistle of this series will wind them up. At present, wide enough breaches have been knocked through Father Lambert's outworks, for Socialism to storm the Lambertian citadel, and plant upon its ruins the banner of human freedom—intellectual, political, economic.

These successive storms will be the subject of the next epistles.

WHERE EXTREMES MEET.

Commissioner McAdoo issued on the tenth instant a statement in which he proved the connection between the poolrooms and the Western Union Telegraph Company and the New York Telephone Company. Thereupon the New York "Evening Post" produces the names of the two directorates and proceeds to say:

> "To put the matter in plain English, here are thirty-eight of the most prominent men in the country, who are responsible for the conduct of two companies that systematically abet a felony for the sake of profit. No one of these gentlemen can justify himself on the ground that, scourged by poverty, he must snatch at every dollar in sight, whether he wins it by fair means or foul. That defence is reserved for the outcast who steals bread for his starving family. No; the only pretext which President Clowry of the Western Union and President Cutler of the New York Telephone can suggest is that they want to swell the receipts of concerns that are already highly prosperous."

In other words, the financial interests that control the "Evening Post," whose felonies the "Evening Post" habitually upholds, but whose interests are in conflict with the directorates of the Western Union and the Telephone companies, land the paper flat upon its back alongside of the justly ridiculed wild-eyed reform freaks who see in the iniquities of capitalism only the result of the "greed of capitalists." The fact is that the "justification" of the outcast who snatches at every dollar in sight, will essentially hold good with the capitalist who swells the receipts of his "already highly prosperous concern." From the premises of capitalist society, the one and the other is scourged by a whip that is essentially the same.

Driven, scourged by poverty felony is committed, is not the capitalist also scourged? Can a million dollars, gathered under capitalist rule be kept safe without they are buttressed up by two millions? Do not the requirements for keeping the buttresses safe call for further millions? How could these outworks of rapine, styled "individualism" be protected without a lavish expenditure of bribe and corruption funds? In short are there not, in direct ratio to the prosperity of a capitalist concern, new, imperative and absorbing wants forced upon it? Finally, is not "a dollar in sight" for the physical outcast with a starving family, quite as much as a million in sight for the moral outcast who owns a "prosperous concern," all the more clamorous in the measure that it is "prosperous!" and inversely, is not, to such a concern, a million in sight as imperative as a "dollar in sight" to the outcast?

The felony committed by the Western Union and the Telephone Company illustrates where and how the extremes of capitalism meet. The underlying law of capitalist society is a scourge that scourges its members to felony—both extremes land at the same spot; nor is the body that lies between the extremes free from guilt—it inevitably sheds the two. As the outcast of capitalist society commits felony to escape starvation, the pillars of capitalist society are forced to the same course lest they become outcasts. In all of which lies a beauty of capitalism—its suicidal feature.

Happily under the toppling tree of capitalism the acorn of Socialism is shooting up, ready to take the suicide's place and with its sounder growth afford a sounder social system.

WHOSE THE BLAME?

The echoes have not yet subsided of the great speech recently delivered by the New England Senator Lodge on, or rather, against immigration. It was a great speech if greatness is to be measured by the stupendousness of an effort to make a pyramid stand on its apex. In that speech Senator Lodge attributed the hard times to the foreigner who comes to these shores—they, poor, ignorant, unskilled, and otherwise no good were the cause of Labor's troubles. That speech should be read by the light of the report, published in these columns, of the recent S. T. and L. A. strike at Vassalboro, Me. The facts brought out in that strike and given by the Maine local papers with regard to the foreigner are nothing new, but they come in timely to appreciate the monstrousness, or falsity of Senator Lodge's theories.

It is difficult to imagine a more self-damaging attitude than that of the anti-immigration capitalist jingo. He does not seem to realize how he contradicts himself. If the immigrants are so worthless, how can they take the places of the worthy natives? Can worthlessness displace worth? If the immigrants are so poor, how can they control the jobs which are the gift of the rich natives and capitalists? Can poor fellows force the hands of these rich natives and compel them to kick out natives and put foreigners in their places? The posture is too absurd for contemplation. The Vassalboro strike furnishes the facts.

Whatever "foreign trash" came into the place was fetched thither by the woolen company and THE SELECTMEN OF THE TOWN. Without the urgent labor of these, the "foreign trash" could not have come, and much to the sorrow of these natives and capitalists, so few were the foreigners that the strikers have inflicted irreparable loss upon the place. Unwilling to submit, they left town, and the how deserted place has become a free academy for the tradesmen, whose shops are now empty, to ponder over the beatitudes of capitalism.

On the New England soil, Senator Lodge's New England, in Vassalboro, we see to-day the native tradesmen and the rich Lodge-loving capitalists on their mental knees, before mental "furriners," mentally imploring these to come in—and do what?—save the nation?—No; help drag it down by lowering the standard of living and of manhood!

It is American capitalism that is dragging the native down to ruin; and it is Labor, whether native or "furrin," but class-conscious and characterful that gives it the only hope of salvation.

* * *

The following is culled from the railroad page of a commercial newspaper:

"Secretary Taylor of the Master Car Builders' and Master Mechanics' associations announces that of roads in trunk line territory—east of Pittsburg and Buffalo—the New York Central, Erie and Delaware & Hudson have advised that they will extend the courtesy of free transportation on account of the June convention to members of either association who are actual employees of railroads and to the members of their families."

The railroad corporations are not slow to realize the gains that accrue to their stockholders from the conferences of their employees. They know that these conferences are stimulating and productive of knowledge and suggestions leading to improvements and new inventions. When the employees realize as much, instead of bestowing the results of their co-operative thought on the stockholders of corporations, they will bestow it upon themselves.

* * *

A writer in "The Independent" says: "The most vital concern of the nation is to be the labor question." This writer had better wake up, for the most vital concern of the nation IS the labor question, there is no "to be" about it.

IN THE THROES

It is symptomatic of the struggle between employer and employee that as it grows in intensity and proportion, there are increased efforts made to belittle its significance and extent. The bad labor conditions and strikes of the early years of American industrial life are conjured up and the historically false contention is made that in the past and not the present is to be found the greatest degradation of the working class. Likewise only very recently was it claimed that May Day was losing its significance, because working class conditions in this country were so good as to be unfavorable to the propagation of its doctrines. Unfortunately for them, two of the leading capitalist newspapers just come to hand, furnish information to indicate in how far these efforts to deride the class struggle are true, and in how far these contentions reflect the conditions of which they are the symptoms.

The financial section of the Evening Post of Saturday, May 7, contains an article entitled "Business West and South," in which "one of the three mercantile establishments employing the largest number of salesmen in the country" gives the following picture, drawn from the data of these salesmen of labor conditions in the sections mentioned:

> "Poor business in many sections is attributed to the unsettled condition of organized labor. Western Pennsylvania, northern Alabama, southeastern Iowa, eastern Ohio, and Colorado seem to be in the throes, and while conditions are brightening up in Pennsylvania, Iowa, and Ohio, Alabama, and Colorado are still up against it."

With five states in two sections "in the throes" of labor troubles, who will be so bold as to claim that present labor difficulties are as nothing compared to those of the past? When was there ever a time in early American industrial history that such a picture was presented?

"Bradsreets," also of Saturday, May 7, observes editorially:

> "May Day has lost some of its old time importance as a period from which to date strike or other industrial disturbances, but there is still enough climatic or other influence making for unsettlement to render that day a notable one in the labor world. Agreeably to expectations, there have been, from the standpoint of numbers engaged, a large number of rather unimportant strikes or lockouts occurring this week which, reports to Bradstreet's indicate, involved nearly 45,000 men. Strikes of coal miners in West Virginia and Eastern Ohio, boiler makers in New York City, building hands in Philadelphia, vesselmen on all the great lakes, machinists in railroad shops in the southwest and wagon makers in New York are among the important troubles brought into evidence. In addition, strikes of bakers in Chicago and Boston have been especially annoying to consumers, who in some instances have been put to straits to provide for daily wants. Such incidents as the shipment of bread in large quantities from Pittsburg, Milwaukee and other points to Chicago exhibit the harrassing character of the labor troubles.
>
> "At no time this year, however, have labor disputes assumed the epidemic character of last year, when the most disturbed labor conditions for nearly a decade existed. In all, about 170,000 men are reported to have struck since the first of the year, or only about one-half the number striking in the same period last year. It needs to be recalled, however, that the real crisis did not come until after June 1 last year, that date seeing fully 300,000 persons idle as the result of strike disturbances, and over 600,000 striking for the year 1903. It is possible that the number idle this year will show great increases later; but it is to be noted that business is quieter this year, conservative labor men are and have advised against extreme demands, and there has grown up a more determined spirit among employers, who are more willing to meet organization with organization, and shut down rather than grant exorbitant demands to the unions. It is satisfactory, therefore, to know that the present rather slow trade and poor crop outlook is apparently not to be further complicated by widespread labor troubles."

These editorial observations of "Bradstreet's" furnish some of the details of the picture "In The Throes," painted by the mercantile house quoted by The Evening Post. They re-enforce the fact of the extensiveness of modern labor troubles, an extensiveness such as was unknown in early American industrial history. Further they show that May Day has not suffered at all from the alleged superior working class conditions of the present. On the contrary, they show that such is the degradation of labor, owing to "the hard times," and the attitude of the labor leaders and the employees, which are predicated on them, that a more extensive revolt is inadvisable at this time. Labor awaits a favorable opportunity to again make more demands on the employers. Whether this opportunity comes on June 1 or later is immaterial, but come it certainly will. Then the smoldering embers of discontent will burst out into labor conflagrations, or strikes, whose heat and intensity will scorch capitalism, as it has never been scorched before. The class struggle is on. No amount of fine assertion, written or unwritten, will waft it aside. Capitalism is "in the throes" of it, and will be in an ever greater degree until its end.

* * *

Said E. H. Harriman, the railroad magnate at the opening of the St. Louis Fair:

> "The first law of all our civilization is the co-operation of all individuals to improve the conditions of life. By division of labor each individual is assigned to or takes his special part in our social organization. The specialization of labor has become most minute. Not only is this true in scientific and philosophical research and professional and business life, but in the simplest and earliest occupations of men, such as the tilling of the soil, the specialist is found bringing to the aid of his industry expert and scientific knowledge.
>
> "Thus modern society has become a complicated organization or machine which can only move when all its parts harmonize and which is obstructed or breaks down when any of these refuse to co-operate or perform their special functions."

Harriman needed only one thing more to complete the beauty of his address, and that was to show that since society labors co-operatively the means wherewith it labors should be owned co-operatively. As it is now the Harriman's are the only ones who get the benefit of social co-operation.

Uncle Sam and
Brother Jonathan!

BROTHER JONATHAN.—I desire you to explain a thing to me about Socialism.

UNCLE SAM.—Which?

B. J.—Has the Socialist Labor Party any definite plan for obtaining the means of production and distribution which are now private property?

U. S.—That question is too broad put that way. But to answer in general, the Socialist Labor Party has, essentially, no more and no less definite a plan to achieve its ends and carry out its programme than the free traders have when they want to overthrow protection; or than the protectionists have when they want to overthrow free trade; or than the silverites have when they want to overthrow the present financial system; and so on.

B. J.—Why, do you mean that?

U. S.—Certainly. What "plan" have the free traders?

B. J.—Their plan is to elect a Congress and President, repeal the tariff laws and enact free trade legislation. That's very simple.

U. S.—And what "plan" have the silverites?

B. J.—Similarly; elect a President and Congress and legislate silver in.

U. S.—Well, the Socialist Labor Party plan is similar. It proposes to capture the public powers, legislate capitalism out, and legislate Socialism in.

B. J.—Ah, but here is where the difference comes.

U. S.—I don't see it.

B. J.—I'll show you. Free trade, protection, silver, anti-trust and other such legislation respect "private property." But Socialism does not. The programme of Socialism is to place into the hands of the people collectively the means of production, now held in private hands;—is it not?

U. S.—It is.

B. J.—Therefore, there must be a vast difference between the plan of the S. L. P. and that of all those other parties. They don't propose to touch private property.

U. S.—Don't they?

B. J.—Do they?

U. S.—Why, certainly.

B. J.—How so?

U. S.—Very simply. Would the private property, held by free traders under a free trade regime, not shrivel in their hands by the overthrow of that regime and the establishment of the opposite protections?

B. J. ponders.

U. S.—Take your time, think it over.

B. J.—Well, yes; it would.

U. S.—And the property in the hands of the victorious protectionists, would it not proportionally increase?

B. J.—Yes, it would.

U. S.—Would not the property in the hands of protectionists fare similar if their regime being up, it is overthrown and free trade introduced?

B. J.—Well, yes.

U. S.—And likewise in the case of victorious silver, etc., etc.?

B. J.—Yes, I see that; but—

U. S.—The only "but" there is about it is that the legislation that the S. L. P. would enact and enforce would frankly, while that of all the others does covertly affect property. But there is one deep and wide difference. Free trade, protection, silver, gold, anti-trust, trust, etc., etc., all claim that their programme is essential to the welfare of the people, and the moment they have a chance to proceed to carry out their programme which is, and can be, none else than the welfare of that particular set of the capitalist class that is benefited by free trade, etc., at the expense of the whole rest of the people. Now, the programme of the S. L. P., which also claims that it alone can promote the welfare of the whole people, is a true, a bona-fide people's programme, and it alone, indeed, can promote the welfare of the nation. If, accordingly, the others can legislate and have legislated property out of the hands of one set of capitalists into the hands of another why should not the S. L. P. be able to legislate stolen property from the hands of the robber class, that now holds it, back into the hands of the people who produced it?

B. J. ponders.

U. S.—If you fe'l shocked it is only an evidence that false pretences of law, order, property, religion, under which the several successful capitalists have successively transferred property through legislation, have commended themselves to you, and have imposed upon you. It is part of the education that the workers have to receive that they emancipate themselves from the domination of capitalist thought. You will have to do that.

B. J.—But—

U. S.—Still a "but"—

B. J.—Yes; on another side of the question. Does the S. L. P. plan embrace the plan of physical force?

U. S.—The S. L. P. plan embraces every step that is in the logic of events. If the capitalist class debauch the ballot box, or if it rises in rebellion against the fiat of the people; if in short, it so far violates the organic law of the land, why, then, physical force becomes the logic of events, and will be applied with crushing effect. That's all there is to it.

The Prince bill punishing employers for bribing labor leaders, signed by Governor Odell, instead of ending bribery, will make it more difficult to expose it. With the prospects of imprisonment facing them, employers will no longer "squeal," and the labor fakirs will, consequently, be able to profit from corrupt industrial conditions with less danger to themselves than before.

Have the labor fakirs thrown arbitration overboard and given their tacit approval to the open shop? The open shop was formally introduced into the clothing trades without any opposition from Harry Korkowinski, alias White, the national secretary of the garment workers. The steel trust has also come out for the open shop, and it is now stated that the opposition to it is likely to be withdrawn through the influence of Theodore Shaffer, president of the Steel and Iron Workers, who is said to favor such a course. Have the labor fakirs decided upon a new tack in their efforts to aid the employers?

The statement of Marquis Ito that Japan is fighting for the world against Russian monopoly in Corea, is quite modest, considering that Japan possesses a monopoly there herself and that her existence is dependent on its continuance. The Marquis is pursuing the old capitalist trick of making his interests synonymous with those of society

The textile industry of this country is facing a crisis. Owing to "over-production" a complete shut-down is likely to occur in it. This must be encouraging to the operatives who uphold capitalism.

The high rate of interest secured on the Japanese loan by Wall street subscribers will give "the historic friendship of Russia" another solar plexus blow.

CORRESPONDENCE

[CORRESPONDENTS WHO PREFER TO APPEAR IN PRINT UNDER AN ASSUMED NAME WILL ATTACH SUCH NAME TO THEIR COMMUNICATIONS, BESIDE THEIR OWN SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS. NONE OTHER WILL BE RECOGNIZED.]

A TELEGRAPHER'S OPEN LETTER.

Jersey City, May 10, 1904.

Commissioner, Order Railroad Telegraphers, Division 10.

Dear Sir and Brother:—Your copy of charges and certificate from President Perham of St. Louis against me anent my open letter in The Weekly People, received. Your request for a statement from me as per this counter charge of violation of obligation by President Perham, to submit to Jersey City Division No. 10, also received. I submit the following:

Brothers, we have in society to-day two classes, the working class, who produce all wealth, and the capitalist class, an idle class of a few, who live idly on labor, subjugate it, and, through their tools and grafters, owns all and claim the earth. The working class invent and operate all machinery used in producing the necessities of life, yet few are allowed to work unless at a wage barely sufficient to live. You naturally will judge this question from your standpoint as a useful worker or as an idle capitalist, whom labor has made one of our kings, or a willing tool of such.

The president mistakes when he states my attitude as being against him personally as a labor contractor, or the O. R. T., of which I am the oldest member hereabouts. It is the fraudulent concern known as the American Federation of Labor headed by one Gompers of the Civic Federation: Mr. Hanna, former president, I object to in particular. This concern, together with a number of labor fakirs of this "physical" body, pretend to arbitrate disputes, but always in favor of their owners, the capitalist class. Owing to the fact that the O. R. T. has lately joined this now corrupt A. F. of L., some officers are pliable tools of it, as I mentioned.

I append my letter on the shorter workday, written when the O. R. T. joined this bosses' association, viz., the A. F. of L., and I also append the only official answer I can find in the editorials of our journal on this point. Off of our own road nothing has been done in the past three years. If we belong to a corrupt concern we become corrupt.

The O. R. T. has nothing but defeat for labor staring it in the face, and besides an almost empty treasury in the protective fund on account of $20,000 being appropriated for a St. Louis house, the corrupt A. F. of L. takes their remaining sap.

There was no such thing as the O. R. T. wrecking one railroad in favor of a reward from another, as in the Rock Island incident mentioned, until the O. R. T. joined the A. F. of L., which don't wish labor to unite and vote its great power into political office, where we could very soon decide that the people who built the country should run it, instead of having the necessities of life dealt out by a few—but the A. F. of L. has no objection to going to Washington to beg the capitalists for favors which they could not get, as no man can serve two masters. The A. F. of L. claims to represent "Labor," but without an aim. It still upholds the identity of the interests of capital and labor, an utter impossibility!

There are other national bodies to join such as the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance, or even the American Labor Union, which takes a stand for labor.

Has not the company closed offices in every city on the line? True, there is an advance in some important positions and living expenses have increased. We have the statement in *The Telegrapher* by Hiller of Pittsburg, in which he states "An A. F. of L. official claims the share of labor is now but one-sixth of the wealth which it produces," and it will soon be less with jurisdiction of such a character as that wielded by the high-priced beauties of the A. F. of L. labor skinners, who use their enormous power in office hunting and wrecking one concern in favor of another.

Labor must unite on correct lines and work for the peace of the people. I violate no obligation to labor.

A. J. Boland,
3033 Boulevard, Jersey City.

APPENDICES.

I.

ON THE DUTY OF MEMBERS.

It is an accepted truth that Labor organizations are a necessity. Absolute slavery would ensue if we had no such organization, with the protection of Labor, as its primary object. Our Order, being a necessity, it devolves on the members to make it as strong as conditions will permit, or we fail in our duty to our fellow man. Occasionally, good members manifest indifference on some important questions, among others, the education of the non-informed. Those who wish to acquire themselves of knowledge read the articles in the *Telegrapher*. Many, no doubt, read the articles on solving the "Labor question" by the ones who reap vast profits from the producer. We will have to solve the question ourselves, and all questions appertaining to ourselves. The Student question is really a part of the Labor question. Labor, in a crowded market, sells itself cheap. All students should exhibit common sense enough to look into the condition of the market. There is much less opportunity in a crowded profession than in one in which a demand exists. A man selling his labor cheap, on account of the condition of the market, wrongs himself, as well as taking bread and butter out of the mouths of others. But, there is a duty behind all these questions, a duty of conscience; a duty that requires your full efforts to strengthen your organization in order to allow you to do your "simple duty." The employment of the unemployed can be brought about by educating ourselves to the fact that one man, in doing the work of two, by working excessive long hours, is not only keeping up the condition of an over-crowded, and consequently, cheap labor market. Long hours of labor, especially mechanical labor, renders a man's mind callous and incapable of clear thought. There would be no immigration question, and but a comparatively easy wage question, if through shorter hours of labor there would be no surplus labor market. Through placing ourselves in a position which would allow individual clear thought and education, we would begin to realize the "Labor Problem" was our problem. All the power of organized labor, backed by public sentiment, were utilized in defeating the scheme of moneyed people to create an over-crowded labor market in the Chinese crisis just passed—and the scheme is not a new one. We are told machinery is a blessing—no doubt it is. Intelligent thought, plans and action must be depended upon to solve the Labor question, machinery question, wage question, health question, and government questions. Slavery would would ensue if we were deprived of the right to organize, for our mutual protection and advancement—unions—a great power for good, being a necessity. Is membership in the union not a moral obligation? Organize and let "Progress" be the watch-word.

A. J. Boland.

June, 1901.

II.

Reliable information is at hand that one, Jack Edwards, "Manager" of the Postal Telegraph Office at La Porte, Indiana, is about to start a telegraph school. It has been found from past experience that the only way some people can be taught anything is by beating it in their heads with a club.

[Two years later.]

EXPERT OPINION.

To The Daily and Weekly People:—To those that have not yet learned of the falsity of the claim that the interests of capital and labor are identical and to those who are still groping in the dark in the expectancy of finding a common ground upon which the two long lost brothers may meet again, embrace each other, and rejoicing in their reunification, vow, henceforth, never to quarrel again, but live in peace and harmony ever after—to those, we say, the following bit of utterance by "one of the largest employers of labor in the United Kingdom" (name not disclosed), appearing in "The Bulletin of the Bureau of Labor" for January 1904, may help to dispel that illusion:

"One hears a great deal of humbug these days about the identity of interests between employer and employee . . . . . This is rank nonsense. The interests of capital and labor, instead of being identical, are antagonistic, and naturally almost must be so. I, an employer of labor, and the trustee of the persons who have invested their money in the business which they have placed in my hands to manage, desire to buy my labor for as little as possible, precisely as it is my object to buy everything else that enters into the cost of production at the lowest possible price in the market. The workman who has something to sell—that is, his time, because that is the only thing the workman has to sell—desires to obtain for that commodity the highest possible price that he can secure for it, and in that respect he does not differ in the least from the seller of any commodity. Therefore, I am trying to pay as little as possible and neither side will yield to the other, except under duress . . . . . . The union has done such wonderful things for the men. Bosh! I tell you what the union is to-day. It is a means of providing a few men with excellent places as officers in the unions, who are paid three or four times as much as they could earn in any other way under the most favorable circumstances, and who have about one-third as little work to do. That is modern trade unionism."

We thank the gentleman for so frank an utterance. Would that every employer used the same language. The line of cleavage would thereby be drawn more sharply and the day of final emancipation would be greatly accelerated.

Yours fraternally,
W. T.

Brooklyn, May 6, 1904.

WAGES, MARRIAGE AND CHURCH.

To The Daily and Weekly People:—I wish to express a few thoughts in regard to Wages, Marriage and the Church. The editor's views are practically the principles of the party as I understand them. But I differ with the editor on the religious or theological point as he expressed himself in the Weekly of April 9, page 2, column 3: "Theology or religion is a delicate and occult thing. No man of sense, and surely none of feeling, will 'hit back' at that tender vein."

That thought divides the man, gives to priests (masters) the soul—the life—and leaves to yourself the corpse—the lifeless body.

In the Weekly of April 23 this is more fully expressed than I can do it, in that passage in "Franz von Sickingen" where Emperor Charles V. and Sickingen are conversing:

Emperor:
If e'er the Pope, presumptuous, stretch his hand
After my crown's rights temporal—believe me,
We shall not lack for either shield or sword.
Another thing, it is within the realm of faith
Against the Church's rule an impious hand to raise.

Franz:
Sire! Equal false are both these principles;
And equal dangerous are both to you!
Supremacy in human conscience's realm—
Behold th' insidious, poisoned weapon which,
Triumphant in their struggle 'gainst th' Empire,
The Gregorys and Innocents have wielded.
Can, truly, such partition satisfy you?
In man's frame-work the body's subject to
The soul: a corpse the soulless body turns.
To you such portion gladly they award
While confidently holding it with firm
And sure grip by the fetters of the soul!
So that, when you in struggle's stress rely
Most confident upon your scepter's might,
At one stroke magic, through a thousand threads
To all the limbs communicated, lo!
The re-awakened corpse against you's flung,
Your people they against your might array!
A phantom-king upon your throne you sit,
So long the curia of Rome in its hand holds
The seal upon your people's conscience!

This applies to the S. L. P. as well as it did to the emperor. Instead of curia of Rome, read priests of all religions.

Judging from Comrade Connolly's article, it was the corpse that was with the S. L. P. and the soul with the curia, and that the corpse is being re-awakened and flung back.

You must consider that all religions that have evolved from or through the mind of man recognizes master and slave in some form, and to try to abolish slavery of whatever name or condition is to hit the then prevailing religion.

If this is not a fact, why have the priests of all religions in, and at, all times, fought the betterment of the condition of man, claiming that the systems of master and slave was the "will of God"?

THEODORE ADAMS.

Columbus, O., April 26.

FOR THE NATIONAL CONVENTION.

To The Daily and Weekly People:—I have noticed Comrade Schaide's letter of some time since, advising that no national convention be held. Now, I also see that the State convention of Illinois has instructed its delegates to the national convention to vote against any change in the manner in which the N. E. C. is constituted. Schaide's letter was that of a stranger to the serious matters that confront the party. Now, if the Illinois State convention delegates had been in New York, closer in touch with the nature and importance of the matter, they were dealing with, I have no doubt that they would not have bound their national delegates as they have.

I call upon the States that have not already elected and instructed their delegates, to look upon this as a matter of serious weight, and not to bind their delegates as those of Illinois are, but to leave them to act with the fuller information they will get at the convention.

Fraternally,
Charles H. Chase.

St. Paul, Minn., May 8.

NOE EVEN A FAKIR TO REPRESENT LABOR.

To the Daily and Weekly People.—It has been some time since Erie has been heard from in the columns of The People, and it is about time that we made a report to our comrades as to how the battle is going in this city.

Some time ago the employers of labor organized under the name of the "Citizens' Alliance," which is directly connected with the National Employers' Association.

They have adopted "the open shop" policy, and, in many cases, have tied the working men who belong to the pure and simple unions by certain agreements, among which was "the abolition of the sympathetic strike."

Now the bosses are beginning to show their "love" for the working class: they (the business men's exchange) have elected, or intend to elect, a "board of governors" to settle all labor disputes, and their decision "shall be final and binding."

Labor has nothing to say in this matter, as our class is in no way represented not even by a fakir. This clipping from the Erie Herald, dated Monday, May 9, will make this clear:

"BOARD OF GOVERNORS.

"Members Will be Elected by the City Firms This Week.

"Representatives on the board of governors which will settle all labor difficulties and disputes in the future will be elected this week by the several firms represented on the Builders' Exchange. The master plumbers have already elected Fred. J. Miller and Adam Karch and the master builders E. W. Constable and Charles Schaper. The governors will be under $1,000 bonds for the faithful performance of their duties. The decision of the board will be final.

"In voting the apportionment will be as follows: General contractors and builders, 10; plumbers, 6; architects, 2; brick manufacturers, 2; bricklayers, 2; cut-stone contractors, 1; electrical contractors, 2; excavators, 2; builders' supplies, 2; hardware dealers, 4; lumber, 2; stone masons, 1; painting contractors, 3; cement and plaster, 4; tinners, 5; total, 49. No more than two men will represent any one of these trades or firms and only one where a trade is entitled to a single vote."

We held a meeting at the corner of Tenth and State streets last Monday night, in order to call the attention of the working class to the fact that they must be upon their guard, and to begin our open-air meetings.

In the afternoon I called upon the Chief of Police to inform him of our intention. After a few questions as to the nature of the meeting, and the subject to be discussed, he referred me to Mayor Hardwick, who was present in the chief's office.

I had to explain to this pompous individual "why we were not able to secure a hall" for the occasion, and stated that even if we were able to hire a hall, we would not do so, especially as the weather was favorable to open-air meetings.

This seemed to anger his honor, and he said in a fierce manner: "Fellows like you, who go around agitating, ought to be taken care of, and if I had my way you would not be allowed to hold a meeting in the street—but as long as the other 'socialists' have the privilege I suppose I cannot prevent you from so doing."

In answer, I told him that I did not ask him or anybody else for the privilege, but that I had simply notified the chief of police of my intentions, and was going to exercise my constitutional rights to free speech as a citizen of the United States, and my duty to my fellow workingmen as a member of the S. L. P.

When he found that he could not "ring in a bluff" he subsided, and we held the meeting.

When we had gathered quite a large crowd, a policeman came over to me and asked me if I had "a permit"; to which I replied promptly "Yes." "Where is it?" he queried. "It is in the constitution of the United States. Go and read it if you doubt my word," I replied.

He retired, and we went on with the meeting. Needless to say there was quite a large crowd, and the best of order prevailed even in the absence of the "representative of law and order."

We are going to hold another meeting next Saturday night.

Fraternally yours,
Jer. Devine.

Erie, Pa., May 12, 1904.

HOUSTON ITALIANS CELEBRATE MAY DAY.

To the Daily and Weekly People.—The Italian comrades of Houston inaugurated the first of May with a propaganda meeting and a festival. Comrades Fasullo, Maiorana, Trapolino, and a sympathizer named F. Manno, made speeches on the class struggle. The meeting was enthusiastic throughout. The sale of refreshments netted $13.45 profit, which is donated to the Daily People. The committee in charge were S. Fasullo, G. Piombino and J. So. Urde.

The Italian comrades of Houston send congratulations to The People and to all comrades. Hurrah for Socialism! Hurrah for the S. L. P.!

Yours for the cause,
P. Maiorana.

Houston, Tex., May 7.

GETTING WHAT THEY VOTED FOR.

To the Daily and Weekly People.—Prosperity has struck Rennselaer. The car workers here voted last election for "something now." They did not want to "throw their vote away." They recognized "the S. L. P. was right, but—" Well, last Tuesday they laid off 21 men in the old Boston Island shop, to-night 20 were laid off in the East St. shops of the Boston and Albany R. R. Last Saturday 400 were laid off in the West Albany shops. They certainly are "getting something now"—in the neck! They are getting what they voted for! Only those voting the S. L. P. ticket have no kick coming.

Yours for the Socialist Republic,
L. F. Alrutz.

Rennselaer, N. Y. May 11.

A GOOD TIME FOR AGITATION.

To the Daily and Weekly People.—Now that the country is full of strikes, or rumors of strikes, the open shop, arbitration, panic, and other topics of working class interest, the attention of party members and sympathizers should be called to the excellent opportunities offered for the dissemination of literature. Such leaflets as "The Industrial Crisis," "The Unemployed," "Union Wreckers," "Old and New Trades Unionism," "Arbitration," "Manifesto of the S. T. & L. A.," "Some Things Workingmen Should Know," etc., ought to be widely distributed among workmen on strike, or laid off. They would do much good and prepare the way for future growths. H. J.

New York, May 12.

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT NOTES

The number of subscriptions to the Weekly People received for the week ending May 13 was 240, an increase of 50 over the preceeding week. This indicates a partial return to activity in the interests of the party press. This is as it should be. Keep it up until complete activity has not only been reestablished, but even the good work of last fall is surpassed in every respect. Don't be afraid to hitch your wagon to the star of the double the present circulation of our party press. There are millions of workingmen who are strangers to the Weekly People. They offer a field from which to gather more than that number of subscribers. Aside from our duty to our press, our duty to our class makes it imperative that we reach these millions of our fellow-workers, and make them acquainted with our principles. We cannot expect them to act in accordance with our principles so long as we have not taken the trouble to make them familiar with them.

Illinois is not going to be the only state to add a big increase of new subscribers to the circulation of the Weekly People. The members of the New York State Executive Committee inform this department that they intend to see that Illinois has a lively competitor. Why don't the other states take up the matter and make it lively for both Illinois and New York? Remember the field is vast and practically untouched. It can be done!

Five or more subscriptions were received from the following: R. Goodwin, Los Angeles, Cal., 28; 34th A. D. New York, 18; 35th A. D. New York, 17; Paulina Wilson, Boston, Mass., 9; H. Jackson, Brinton, Pa., 6; J. Viethaler, Milwaukee, Wis., 6; James Trainer, Syracuse, N. Y., 5; F. Bombach, Boston, Mass., 5; J. D. Goerke, Cleveland, O., 5; Geo. Hasseler, Detroit Mich., 5; G. Jenning, E. St. Louis, Ill., 5; A. Rutstein, Yonkers, N. Y., 5; I. Day, Trinidad, Cal., 5;.

G. Goodwin, of Los Angeles, Cal., wins the block of prepaid blanks offered as a prize to the person sending in the largest number of subs for the week.

The following amout of prepaid blanks were sold: F. Leitner, San Antonio, Tex., $4.75; 34th A. D. New York., $2.00; J. U. Billings, Grand Junction, Colo., $5.00; Steve Brearcliff, Seattle, Wash., $5.00 H. Gunn, Schenectady, N. Y., $5.00! Section Boston, Mass., $5.00.

Now then, comrades and friends, fall to in the works for our party press and cause . The times are ripe for our propaganda. Roll up the circulation. Knowlendge is power only when it is S. L. P. knowledge.

LABOR NEWS NOTES.

"Woman Under Socialism," De Leon's translation of Bebel's great book, continues to sell well. M. Ruther, of Holyoke, Mass., who is actively canvassing for the book, sends in an order for another 25 copies. Adam Marx, of New London, Conn., who did so well for the The Monthly People, sends in an order for 24 copies. He says: "I wish I could show the comrades how easy it is to sell the book." This has been the statement of all the canvassers of the book. It is a good solid work, well written and well translated. More canvassers are wanted. Send for terms.

"The Pilgrim's Shell, or Fergan the Quarryman," De Leon's translation of Eugene Sue's great sociological novel, will be ready for delivery in the early part of the week beginning May 16. This book promises to be a better seller than its predecessor, "The Silver Cross," also by Eugene Sue. Don't fail to get a copy of it.

LETTER-BOX

OFF-HAND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

[NO QUESTIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED THAT COME IN ANONYMOUS LETTERS. ALL LETTERS MUST CARRY A BONA FIDE SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS.]

F. J. C., BOSTON, MASS.—First, The word "value" is a product of organized society. It follows that "use value" is a term that has no practical importance except it goes mentally accompanied with the idea that the article of "use value" also contains "exchange value," that is, contains labor. Thus, coal in the bowels of the earth, where nobody is aware of its existence, cannot properly be referred to as a "use value"—although in the abstractest of meanings it is that.

Second, Usefulness is the quality that imparts use value to an article.

D. C. W., COLUMBUS, O.—Dear Sir, do you know the meaning of what you say? If "the S. L. P. is right but premature," then it follows:

First, That the sooner the day dawns when the S. L. P. shall not be premature, the better; consequently,

Second, That every slander uttered by your bogus Socialist party against the "right but premature S. L. P." is a wrong to Socialism in that it delays the advent of the day when general information will render the S. L. P. both right and timely;

Third, That it were folly for those who are ripe for the S. L. P. to give up and join your unripe concern; and

Fourth, That as bait will never land the fish unless the fisherman holds the other end of the line, and as it would be nonsense for the fisherman to turn himself into bait, useful tho' the bait is for the catching of fish, the S. L. P. must politely decline to drop the fisherman's end of the line and become at the other end the "redolent bait" that you pronounce your party to be.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN—A stack of letters has come in, mostly for publication, on the matter of the serial stories in the Weekly People, some condemning others highly approving the space taken. To all we say:

First, The subject has no longer any practical importance, seeing that it has been decided to wholly discontinue the stories in the Weekly and continue them in the Daily only. The approaching campaign, requiring the space in the Weekly for campaign purposes renders the decision imperative.

Second, The two page system was adopted so as to bring out those two books quickly.

Third, There should be no doubt that three pages is too much and harmful on the whole. But even those who object strongest thereto, did they know the mechanical snag that was the cause of that 3-page issue, they would quit kicking and rather sympathize with our trials.

C. B., NEW HAVEN, CT.—Contributions of articles to THE PEOPLE are gratis. Valuable tho' many contributions are, the establishment can not afford to pay for them.

E. E. R., SAN JOSE, CAL.—Such questions belong to the N. E. C. We have no authority to answer them.

L. B., TROY, N. Y.—The editors and owners of the privately owned press of the bogus Socialist party downed all attempts in their late alleged national convention in Chicago for a party-owned paper. Their argument was that a clique could eventually get control of such a paper, consequently, they favored the idea of private cliques owning their press now.

H. G. SCHENECTADY, N. Y.—That's like asking us to look for a needle in a hay-stack. Can you not locate the date of the article approximately. Articles on the cost of living have been numerous during the last two years.

P. D., SEATTLE, WASH.—On the whole the standard of living has declined since the introduction of capitalism. See upon this Thorold Roger's work. But this is a one-sided view of the subject, unless the serf-period is separated from the period when capitalism becomes openly revolutionary. The serf's condition was worse than the present wage slave's.

O. N. M., WILMERDING, PA.—The freeing of the southern negroes was a revolution and it was also a social revolution. In so far as the negro did not become, from an oppressed, a ruling class, the event that set him free does not come categorically under the head of the revolution whereby the bourgeois overthrows the feudal regime. But in so far as it very materially disturbed social and even economic conditions in the South it was a revolution. The emancipation of the negro was an after-clap of the revolution of 1776. That revolution overthrew feudalism substantially, but by leaving chattel slavery extant it left that vestige of feudalism in existence. Consequently, in the strict sense of the term, the emancipation of the negro was a reform. It was a finishing touch to the real revolution of 1776. Thus it may happen that a reform so dove-tails in a revolution that it is hard to draw the line.

S. P. S., TROY, N. Y.—There is nothing to reconsider. Your premises will not hold water. Nobody brought any charges against Connolly; it is Connolly who brought charges against the S. L. P. And he emphasized the point by introducing his charges with an anecdote indicative of the possibility that he is the only sane man in the Party, the rest crazy.

G. O., NEW YORK.—Call at office.

H. S. F., BROOKLYN, N. Y.—There would be nothing easier than for the S. L. P. to arrange for congratulatory telegrams from European parties. But S. L. P. national conventions are not theatres, and S. L. P. delegates are not comedians.

D. B. L., NEW YORK.—Be careful you do not slip in judging. That part of your argument that the Volkszeitung corporation dominates its party in New York with jobs is sound enough. Jobs, material reward and punishments, are essential to bossism, and it is no absurdity to call such an organization a boss But that part of your argument that pronounces the Volkszeitung followers "dupes who are bossed by what the Volkszeitung says" is a statement discreditable to the man who makes it. Such a man reads himself out of the category of organized man into the category of the autonomous Anarchist, with whom each man acts wholly under his own council. Organization implies discussion; discussion implies the just belief of each of the discussers that he is right, and the readiness of all to accept the best opinion. Under such circumstances the statement is improper that the corporation dominates or bosses the views of others. We can and will shatter that set of speculators on Labor, but let us not do it in a way by which we shatter our own morale.

E. L. M., GIRARD, KANS.—The People will ever allow space to a person who thinks that a correspondent in these columns has done him injustice. But the language used must be parliamentary. Your language toward B. Eide of Red Wing, Minn., is not. Possibly your difficulty in managing the English language is to blame for that. Nevertheless in such matters we do not feel at liberty to edit a letter into shape. Your letter will be returned when we shall have had time to preserve a copy of it. Until then we shall have to remain in your debt for the stamps.

C. H. C., ST. PAUL, MINN.—First, We do not know that Carroll D. Wright ever held an office in a trade union.

Second, The "Molly Maguires" was a secret organization, located mainly in the mining regions of Pennsylvania. Their views were that the iniquities suffered by the workingman could be redressed by their combined action against the individual wrong-doing capitalist. They vanished after a strike some twenty years ago.

Next questions next time.

W. T., BROOKLYN, N. Y.—The author of "A Study of Genius" is right when he says Luther was merely a product of the Reformation; but he is wrong when he considers the Reformation a product of "the existing corruption of the church which, gathering volume with every decade of its progress" aroused Luther, etc. There certainly was less corruption under Leo X than under the Borgian papacy. You will find a condensed statement of the causes that led to the Reformation in one of the answers to questions published in the pamphlet, "Socialism vs. Anarchism."

W. B., ST. LOUIS, MO.—Never saw the man; give us some details of his antecedents and present occupation. Know little of him.

J. P. L., SALINAS CITY, CAL.; L. A., CHICAGO, ILL.; I. O., BUTTE, MONT.; J. R. M., OWEN SOUND, ONT.; B. U. P., DETROIT, MICH.; J. M. BROOKLYN; PRESS COMMITTEE, MARION, IND.; T. W. CAMBRIDGE, MASS.; D. R. O'B., CHICAGO, ILL.; T. U., PUEBLO, COLO.; R. J., SPRINGFIELD, ILL.; N. N. P., BERLIN, GERMANY; J. C. M., FALKIRK, SCOTLAND; P. P., NEW YORK; J. A. S., SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.; T. S. LOUISVILLE, KY.; W. D. O'C., DULUTH, MINN.; J. C. B., PATERSON, N. J.; R. McD., PITTSBURG, PA.; J. K., SPRINGFIELD, VT.—Matter received.

* * *

If you receive a sample copy of this paper it is an invitation to subscribe. Subscription price: 50 cents per year; 25 cents for six months. Address Weekly People 2-6, New Reade street, New York City.

OFFICIAL

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Henry Kuhn, Secretary, 2-6 New Reade street, New York.
SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY OF CANADA—National Secretary, P. O. Box 380, London, Ont.
NEW YORK LABOR NEWS COMPANY, 2-6 New Reade street, New York City (The Party's literary agency.)
Notice—For technical reasons no party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesdays, 10 p. m.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Regular meeting held May 13 at 2-6 New Reade street. John J. Donohue in the chair. Absent and excused, E. C. Schmidt and A. Klein. The financial report showed receipts $130.05; expenditures, $91.87.

The committee elected by Section New York to look for a hall to hold the convention in made report and submitted two halls. One at Grand Central Palace, the other at Teutonia Hall. It was decided to engage the hall at Grand Central Palace and to fix the time for opening the national convention at Saturday, July 2, 10 a. m.

The national secretary reported that the appeal in the matter of the Fiebiger suit had been decided against the party by the Appellate Term and that the judgment had been paid.

Communications: One from Glasgow, Scotland, by the national secretary of the S. L. P. of Great Britain, acknowledging receipt of some organization matter having been sent there on request; also saying that if the delegate of the S. L. P. of the U. S. to the Amsterdam Congress on his way back home would stop over in Scotland he would be sure of a most hearty welcome. From Section Seattle, Wash., reporting expulsion of B. Jacobson for begging of members. Several letters from the Illinois S. E. C. upon general party matters and matters connected with the press. Several communications from different points on the matter of publishing in the Weekly People the translations that have appeared for quite some time. Some correspondents seemingly are against publishing any of this matter while others favor it, but want to see less space devoted to it. Since the regulation of the quantity of the articles in the Weekly People has already been looked after by the editorial department, no action was taken. From the N. E. C. of the S. L. P. of Canada, inquiring under what conditions they can be jointly represented at the Amsterdam Congress with the S. L. P. of the U. S. The national secretary was instructed to reply and give the information desired. From the S. E. C. of California, reporting the work of the canvasser sent on the road and his experiences in a number of towns in the State. From Braddock, Pa., a letter asking for information about a Hungarian paper sent there. From Section Minneapolis, Minn., reporting election of officers after re-organization. From Section Albany, N. Y., reporting suspension of J. J. Corcoran for six months and fine of $15 for misappropriation of funds. From Section Milwaukee asking that date of national convention be fixed so that the Wisconsin delegation be enabled to be back by July 4, when State convention will be held. For a number of weighty reasons it was impossible to comply with this request. Hartford, Conn. reported election of new organizer. The Texas N. E. C. reported election of Frank Leitner as delegate to national convention. Several letters were read from Charles H. Chase reporting his work in Minnesota, and the S. E. C. of that State had decided to continue him in the field until June 1, after which date he will return to New York. In view of this we again repeat that it would be desirable to arrange for a few meetings en route to avoid a long blank run and lessen expenses. Sections between Minnesota and New York desiring to avail themselves of this opportunity will please communicate with the national secretary.

The Ohio, N. E. C. reported to have taken steps to look into matters at Columbus and endeavor to straighten out the trouble.

Quite a number of letters had been received from several members in Chicago, depicting what they had seen and heard at the convention of the S. P. recently held in that city.

A letter from Minneapolis, protesting against the suspension of the section, was tabled as the matter must be considered to be disposed of.

Timothy Walsh,
Recording Secretary, pro-tem.

* * *

NEW JERSEY STATE COMMITTEE.

Regular meeting of the committee was held Sunday, May 8, at the headquarters of Section Hoboken, Comrade Burgholz chairman.

Section Passaic County reported good attendance at their business meetings; plans for outdoor agitation work in the near future now being arranged; every member of the section will soon be at work for the party press, preparing the way for a thorough canvas. One new member admitted last month, most of the members in good standing.

Section Essex County reports good progress in building up the section since they got rid of the element that hampered the work. At meeting of May 7, fourteen votes were cast for Daniel De Leon as delegate to the International Congress, no votes against.

Section Hoboken reported that the American branch will take up the work of pushing the Weekly People. If they go at it in earnest they should soon be abreast of the excellent record made by the German branch in pushing the Arbeiter Zeitung. At meeting held April 26, Daniel De Leon received sixteen votes as delegate to the International Congress, no votes against him.

Section North Hudson reported having distributed 3,000 leaflets in West Hoboken for the election held April 12. The party polled forty-five votes. Thirty copies of Reform or Revolution, in Italian, were sold. Little work being done for the party press, which is a great mistake as only upon the dissemination of S. L. P. knowledge can we hope to build the movement.

Section South Hudson reported that at meeting of April 29 it was decided to divide the section into two branches. This action was taken to facilitate the work of the party. The branch in the northern part of the territory covered by the section to be Branch 1, and that in the Greenville section to be Branch 2. The comrades should get together in the branch nearest that part of the city in which they live. Section meetings to be arranged later. The section calls upon the S. E. C. to call a meeting of all the members of Hudson County to organize a County Committee and to nominate a county ticket and fill out the State ticket. The State secretary was instructed to attend to this. Comrade De Leon received six votes, one in opposition. Hudson County picnic committee had been instructed to call a meeting.

No report from Section Union County. State secretary reported having written to Comrade May as instructed, without result. Is to take the matter up again.

Comrade Boland, delegate from D. A. 4, S. T. & L. A. to the State Committee, reported three alliance meetings in Jersey City, and two in Newark since last report. A meeting will be held in Hoboken next Friday. New local with twelve men organized in Jersey City. Expected that a local of German speaking workmen will be organized in Elizabeth soon. The workers are showing greater interest in alliance agitation.

The N. A. F. returns from this State are still incomplete and section organizers are requested to get the matter straightened out. The N. A. F. Committee want final reports before their meeting of June 4.

Sections that have not voted on delegate to the International Congress must not fail to do so at their next meeting, and report the vote. No comrade should consider himself in good standing unless his card bears a Congress assessment stamp, and sections should see to it that prompt settlement is made on these stamps.

Individual comrades and the party organizations are requested to aid the party's publishing department by paying their bills as promptly as possible.

In a few days section organizers will receive a supply of cards designed to help in the work of canvassing for the Weekly People. We, in New Jersey, have been very backward in this work and until we turn to and do it, and keep it up, we need look for little progress for the movement in this State. There are towns in other States that beat our entire State in Weekly People readers. It is high time for us to awake.

Secretary.

* * *

MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COMMITTE.

Regular meeting of the General Committee Massachusetts S. L. P. was held in Boston on May 8, and called to order by the chairman Frank Keefe, of Lynn. Roll call showed Keefe, Barry, Sweeney, Neilson, Englehardt, Greenman, and Mortensen present, and Murphy, Young and Fitzgerald absent.

Records of meeting of April 24 read and approved.

Correspondence of North Adams, New Bedford, National Secretary Henry Kuhn, John Hossack, J. F. Jennings, A. Miller and J. Miller, Sections Lowell, Worcester and Lynn. Accepted and filed, and secretary ordered to reply where reply was necessary.

Secretary reported that since last meeting he had purchased 100 due stamps, ordered 100 more of the assesment stamps for the Amsterdam Congress, and has sent as part payment $50 on the National Agitation Fund; that he had spoken in Worcester on May 1, and would go to Lowell on May 11, and that so far the receipts from the late De Leon meeting were $40.00 and the expenses $29.18. Report accepted as progress.

John Sweeney, secretary of picnic Committee, reported that pursuant to a vote of this body asking their co-operation, the Scandanavian Socialist Club had elected a committee to act with us in holding a Picnic for the benefit of the Party; that two meetings of the joint committee had been held and that Amory Grove, Roxbury, had been hired, that picnic would be held on Saturday, July 16, and that the party members throughout the State are called upon to assist wherever possible. Report accepted as progress.

In the matter of Section Lynn, which referred back to this body its circular letter of April 19 on the paid secretary question it was ordered that secretary write Section Lynn stating that the question is one to be voted on by the members Yes or No——a referendum vote of the Party— and for them to vote on the question, and forward the result.

Leon Greenman was elected on the auditing committee in place of J. J. Dolan, resigned. Adjourned.

Michael T. Berry, secretary.
Massachusetts S. L. P.
99½ Chesnut st., Lynn Mass.

* * *

CONNECTICUT STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Connecticut State Executive Committee met at S. L. P. Hall, Hartford, Conn., May 8th, with A. Johnson in the chair.

Roll call showed all present with the exception of the Kensington delegate who appeared during the session.

Minutes of previous meeting were paproved as read.

Communications:

From Moosup, Rockville, Bridgeport, New Britain, Kensington, Centerville, New Haven and Hartford reporting about N. A. F. matter and forwarding a total of $136.86 for same.

Moosup also sending $1.60 for dues. Hartford, Rockville, Moosup and New Britain reported vote on place of State Convention and delegates to National Convention. New Haven reported preference to holding State Convention at Hartford, also reporting suspension for non-payment of dues of Faustine Sener, Thomas Maher, John Peterson and Lewis Kienzy; also extended an invitation to attend a debate between C. J. Mercer and a local politician.

From M. Stodel in regards his attending the National Convention. Centerville reported local difficulties, returning charter and Section property.

From H. Kuhn forwarding International Congress assesment stamps and other matter. Communications received and referred to new business.

State Secreary's action in forwarding N. E. C. matter to Sections approved

Treasurer's report received as follows:

On hand April 1st	$187.55
Income for April	15.10
Total	202.65
Expenses for April	32.70
On hand May 1st	$169.95

New business:

Motion carried to hold State Convention at Hartford on Decoration Day and Secretary given necessary instructions. The Sections in the State are called upon to send full delegation.

After discussing the S. E. C. report to the State Convention and adding a few recommendations the committee adjourned.

E. Sherman, Rec. Secretary.

* * *

OHIO STATE CONVENTION.

Comrades:—The Socialist Labor Party of Ohio will hold its State Convention in Cleveland, Ohio, on May 30 (Decoration Day), at Section Cleveland's Hall, 356 Ontario street, top floor, (German American Bank Building). Convention will be called to order at 9.30 a. m. sharp.

It is to be hoped and expected that the party membership of the State will be largely represented. Members at large and adherents and sympathizers of the S. L. P. are cordially invited to attend and to avail themselves of the excursion rates prevailing on all railroad lines on Decoration Day.

Visitors from the State who are not acquainted in Cleveland will be gladly met at the depot by a committee if they notify the undersigned of the time and depot of their arrival. Committee will be recognizable by the party button and small red badge.

Any further information wanted, you can receive by addressing

Richard Koeppel,
193 Champlain Street,
Cleveland, Ohio.

* * *

OHIO SECTIONS AND MEMBERS-AT-LARGE.

Owing to lack of funds, your S. E. C. is obliged to call for contributions to defray the expense of sending our delegates to the national convention.

James Rugg, Secretary.
1925 Osage St., Cleveland, O.

* * *

NEW YORK DELEGATES.

The following is the vote cast for the New York State delegates to the national convention:

Up-State—O. Beldner, 66; L. A. Boland, 168; O. A. Curtis, 88; J. J. Corcoran, 110; C. Corregan, 243; P. De Lee, 120; H. Gunn, 52; C. Hauk, 74; H. Kruse, 45; C. Leudecke, 35; E. L. Lake, 100; A. Metzler, 124; C. Maher, 44; F. Passanno, 117; B. Reinstein, 232; C. Ruby, 25; J. Ryan, 50; H. Schrader, 33; — Schuch, 16; W. Sullivan, 98; J. Trainor, 91; J. E. Wallace, 156. Corregan, Reinstein, Boland, Wallace, Metzler, De Lee, Passanno, Sullivan and Trainor, having received the requisite votes are elected the up-State delegates; Trainor acting as alternate for Corcoran, suspended.

Down-State—Brauckmann, 170; Bams, 109; Downs, 76; Deutsch, 48; De Leon, 202; Gillhaus, 210; Gaffney, 113; Hammer, 135; Kober, 50; Kihn, 198; Kinneally, 259; Levine, 58; Lund, 28; Malmberg, 81; Mummery, 32; Olson, 76; Scherer, 82; Teichlauf, 35; Troy, 76; Walsh, 219; Wilton, 64. De Leon, Kinneally, Walsh, Gillhaus, Kihn, Brauckmann, Hammer and Gaffney, having received the highest number of votes are elected the down-State delegates.

Justus Ebert, Secretary N. Y. S. E. C.

* * *

NEW YORK AND THE PARTY PRESS.

To the members of the sections of the Socialist Labor Party of the State of New York. Comrades:—The Socialist Labor Party of the State of Illinois has determined to secure 1000 new subscribers to The Weekly People, during the coming campaign. Considering its numerical strength, the means at hand, and its other activities, this is a great undertaking for the S. L. P. of Illinois. It betokens an interest in the success of our press and principles that is worthy of emulation on a larger scale in New York State.

Your State committee actuated by the example set by our comrades in Illinois, and considering the greater membership larger number of industrial cities and inhabitants, has determined to secure 2,500 new subscribers or an average of 100 a week, between now and election day, to The Weekly People in New York State. It urges your active co-operation in the following plan to achieve this end: First, that all sections and members purchase prepaid subscription blanks from the New York State Committee for the purpose, the committee to secure a batch of $50 worth as the first installment at once; Second, that at all meetings to be addressed by our speakers during the coming campaign, the securing of subscriptions be made a special feature; Third, that when meetings are not held a house-to-house canvass be inaugurated, especially on Sunday mornings. Your committee feels certain that concerted and determined action along these lines will accomplish the end aimed at. With a strong pull and a pull altogether success will be our.

Yours fraternally,
The New York State Executive Committee, S. L. P., J. Ebert, Secretary.

* * *

G. E. B., S. T. & L. A.

Regular meeting of General Executive Board, S. T. & L. A., held Thursday evening, May 12, 1904, at 2-4-6 New Reade street, New York. Meeting called to order at 8 p. m. August Gilhaus elected chairman. All members present.

Minutes of previous meeting read and adopted.

Financial reports of general secretary and treasurer read, received and placed on file.

General secretary reported on agitation work being done by D. A. 4, in Newark and Jersey City, very successful meetings being held in both places.

Communications: From D. A. 17, Rhode Island, with order for stamps and supplies, also reporting on local conditions in Woonsocket and Providence, with a request as to organization. Request granted. From L. A. 325, Los Angeles, Cal., with quarterly report for March. From L. A. 385, Woonsocket, R. I., with a request that the local be changed from a Weavers L. A. to a Mixed Local of the textile industry. Action, referred back for further information.

From Section Seattle, Washington, S. L. P with donation for L. A. 392 strike fund.

From L. A. 308, Troy, New York, with quarterly report for March.

From L. A. 396, Skowhegan, Me., with quarterly report.

From members of strike committee of L. A. 392, No. Vassalboro, with a report of strike, which had been published in the "Weekly People," also giving notice that the strike had been declared off, most of the members having moved away from the place rather than submit to the slavish conditions that the American Woolen Company sought to impose on them. Some thirty families had moved away. Other reports have been received in reference to the strike, which were sent back for further information. The strike having been declared off the membership are notified to send no more donations.

Resolved, That fifty copies of The Daily People containing a report of the strike be sent to the No. Vassalboro comrades.

From L. A. 356, Braddock, Pa., in answer to a request for information on local conditions.

From L. A. 325, Los Angeles, order for stamps.

From L. A. 262, Fall River Mass, order for stamps.

From L. A. 166, Louisville, Ky., with report of local conditions and order for supplies.

From L. A. 373, Lawrence, Mass., asking for information in reference to last convention. Secretary directed to give the desired information.

From L. A. 373, with donation for L. A. 392 strike fund.

From S. L. P. members of Peoria, Illinois, asking for information as to the organizing of an Alliance, the prospects being good for an alliance movement there. Secretary directed to answer. From several sympathizers, with donations for general organizers fund.

The necessity of immediate action to put an organizer in the field was then discussed. Action: Resolved, That secretary be directed to correspond with comrades who are most available for the work.

The necessity of a newly written leaflet on the Alliance and its principles, aims, etc., was discussed. Action; Comrades French and Olson appointed as a committee to draft a leaflet that would be up to date and present the same to this board as soon as possible, for its approval.

Motion, made seconded and passed, that all L. A.'s throughout thbe country be requested to procure, if possible, suitable portable stands for out-door agitation and that the board recommend the stand made by Comrade George Wollenschlager, 417 West Sixteenth street, New York, as the best. It is now in use by the S. L. P. sections.

The general secretary drew the attention of the board to a slanderous article against the board and the S. T. & L. A., which was published in the official organ of the American Labor Union, the issue of April 14. The article, in its entirjty, was read by the secretary, and after a thorough discussion showing the falsity of the charges, the following was adopted: Resolved, That the general secretary be and is hereby directed to communicate with the said journal requesting a substantiation or retraction.

After other routine business was transacted, meeting adjourned.

John J. Kinneally,
General Secretary.

* * *

THE DAILY PEOPLE HOMESTRETCH FUND.

UNDER THIS HEAD WILL BE PUBLISHED ALL DONATIONS MADE FOR THE LAST FINAL EFFORT TO CLEAR UP THE BALANCE OF THE DEBT ON THE DAILY PEOPLE PRINTING PLANT. THAT BALANCE, ON NOVEMBER 15, WAS $4,643, PLUS INTEREST. WATCH AND SEE HOW THE FIGURES OF THE "HOMESTRETCH FUND" GET UP TO IT.

Previously acknowledged	$4,134.85
H. Holt, Duquoin, Ill.	1.00
W. Juhnke, San Pedro, Cal.	6.35
J. Shane, Smithfield, Ohio	1.50
J. B. Dillon, National Military Home, Ind.	.50
J. M. Tunney, Seattle, Wash.	2.00
F. H., College Point, L. I.	1.00
Section Houston, per Maiorana, Texas, Proceeds from May Day Celebration	18.40
T. Hage, San Francisco, Cal.	1.00
F. E. Passonna, Troy, N. Y.	3.00
W. Gilpin, Hoboken, N. J.	5.00
„ „	$4,174.60

COMMITTEE OF FIFTEEN.

Previously acknowledged	$160.50
J. Levitch, Second and Fourth A. D., New York	1.00
D. Cohen, Second and Fourth A. D., New York	1.00
Fifth and Fifteenth A. D., Brooklyn, New York	1.25
Thirty-fifth A. D., New York	1.25
	$165.00

* * *

MARCH 20, 1904, CONCERT.

Total received to date from Max Heyman, treasurer, $243.25.

DAILY PEOPLE AUXILIARY LEAGUE.

The following amounts were received from members of the Daily People Auxiliary League since February 6:

Section Toronto, Canada	$3.95
Los Angeles, Cal., D. P. L.	30.00
California members at large	21.00
De Lee-Devane, Troy, N. Y.	16.00
7th and 9th A. D., N. Y.	2.00
August Gillhaus, N. Y.	1.00
John J. Donohue, N. Y.	6.00
"Stamford," Conn.	2.75
Section New Haven, Conn.	5.25
Section Hartford, Conn.	10.00
H. Blyn, N. Y.	11.00
Minneapolis, Minn., D. P. L.	2.00
Section San Antonio, Texas	5.00
Henry Mahland, N. Y.	5.00
C. Vonderlieth, N. Y.	5.00
7th A. D., Brooklyn, N. Y.	1.00
Total	$126.95
Previously acknowledged	$4,705.95
Grand total	$4,832.90

Henry Kuhn,
Treasurer, D. P. L.

* * *

THE PRESS SECURITY LEAGUE.

Regular meeting of the Executive Committee of the League was held at the Daily People Building, Saturday evening, May 7. Comrade Brauckman, chairman.

The secretary-treasurer reported having sent out 150 of the circular letters of the League and that applications are beginning to come in, the average pledge being $1 per month. In sending out the letters an endeavor had been made to reach only those financially able to join in the work, and who in addition have the determination to see the work through so long as the need for it lasts. On this latter point the League has no illusions whatever. We recognize the fact that help will be needed for our press for a long time, and we have enlisted for the war.

The existence of the S. L. P. press is a bitter pill to the capitalist parties, for no longer need the wage workers be such innocents as to draw their whole stock of information from the capitalist papers. Every issue of our paper is gall and wormwood to the dirty money-making Volkzeitung crew, and to every fakir and crook in this broad land who would live by furnishing an outlet into nothingness to the discontent that is rising in the world of labor.

On with the S. L. P. press! is the watchword of the party's press Security League.

John Hossack, Secretary,

GRAND PICNIC

THE SCANDANAVIAN SOCIALIST
CLUB OF BOSTON
WILL GIVE ITS SEVENTEENTH PICNIC
DECORATION DAY
Monday, May 30, 1904,
From 10 A. M. to 10 P. M. AT
AMORY GROVE, ROXBURY.

Speech by J. F. MALLONEY—Singing by four Scandinavian Singing Choruses, Sports and Games of Different Kinds. Dancing 2 to 10 P. M. DOHERTY'S ORCHESTRA—Admission, Gent, 50 Cents; Lady, 35 Cents—Children Under Twelve Years with Parents, Free.

SOLICITORS WANTED

We want solicitors in every city and town who are willing to devote a part or all of their time to extending the circulation of The Weekly People. A special commission will be paid to persons who mean business and can show results. Write for particulars and give references.

The Weekly People 2 to 6 New Reade St., NEW YORK CITY.

ILLINOIS RESOLUTIONS

Continued from Third Page.

ism, etc., and the acceptance of representatives only of the class-conscious Socialist Labor Party of the respective countries; and, be it further

Resolved, That if the International Congress, as now organized, persists in sitting in council with the above-named gentry that the delegation of the Socialist Labor Party of the United States take the initiative in withdrawing from the International Congress, stating the reasons therefore; be it further

Resolved, That the delegation of the Socialist Labor Party of the United States call upon the other class-conscious clear-sighted Socialist delegations to withdraw likewise, and further endeavor, if possible, to organize at once an international body, true to the principles of international Socialism, upon the basic principle of the class struggle, i. e., the union of the class-conscious members of the working class in all countries against all the capitalist factions and their hirelings in whatever country or clime.

Resolution No. 4 on the N. E. C., has already appeared in these columns, in the report of the convention.

V.

Be it resolved by the delegates of the Socialist Labor Party of Illinois in State convention assembled, that the S. E. C. be instructed to furnish resignation blanks to candidates for public offices, with notification of nomination.

VI.

Resolved, That we, the delegates of the Socialist Labor Party of Illinois in State convention assembled, indorse the efforts of the S. E. C. in behalf of the party press and call upon every member in the State to assist it in securing the 1,000 yearly, or the proportionate number of half yearly subscribers for the Weekly People within six months from this day as pledged by the S. E. C.

We also call upon members outside of Illinois to realize the necessity of a larger circulation of the party press, to not only put it on a sound footing financially, but to make it a power for the cause of revolutionary Socialism.

VII.

Be it resolved by the delegates of the Socialist Labor Party of Illinois, assembled in State convention, that the S. E. C. be instructed to fill all vacancies that may occur on the State ticket

VIII.

Be it resolved that a copy of the proceedings of this convention be sent to the party organs for publication.

SECTION MARION, IND.

Mass meeting, corner of Fourth and Washington streets, on Saturday, May 21. E. J. Dillon will speak.

SECTION CINCINNATI'S OFFICERS.

At a meeting held on May 10, Section Cincinnati elected the following officers: Organizer and secretary, Henry Fuehrer; financial secretary, Robert Cameron; treasurer, Ferd. Steinbach; literary and People agent, Chas. Pandorf; press committee. Chas. Pandorf and Henry Fuehrer.

The section takes up the fight against capitalism with renewed vigor.

'FRISCO S. L. P. HEADQUARTERS.

Section San Francisco's headquarters and free reading rooms, located at 610 Montgomery street (between Clay and Washington streets), third floor, room 23, are open every day in the year.

Section business meetings every Monday night at 8 o'clock. Comrades and sympathizers are requested to call.

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Section Calender

(Under this head we shall publish standing advertisements of Section headquarters, or other permanent announcements, at a nominal rate. The charge will be one dollar per line per year.)

New York County Committee—Second and fourth Saturdays, 8 p. m., at 2-6 New Reade street, Manhattan.

Kings County Committee—Second and fourth Saturdays, 8 p. m., at headquarters, 813 Park avenue, Brooklyn.

General Committee—First Saturday in the month, at Daily People building, 2-6 New Reade street, Manhattan.

Offices of Section New York, at Daily People building, 2-6 New Reade street, Manhattan.

Los Angeles, California. Section headquarters and public reading room at 205½ South Main street. Public educational meetings every Sunday evening. People readers are invited to our rooms and meetings.

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3. That Socialism alone can permit medical science to destroy all kind of diseases.
4. That man, living according to the laws of nature and of hygiene, things that under Socialism everybody could do, may reach an age twice as great as is now considered exceptional.
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New York Labor News Company,
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